

Toward Safety and Justice: Domestic Violence in Seattle 2006

**A REPORT BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION DIVISION**

October 2007

**In memory of Norm Maleng
*King County Prosecuting Attorney, 1978 to 2007***

***A loving, big-hearted man who led the fight against domestic violence
in King County for 29 years.
Thank you for showing us the way.***



Dear Reader:

With this publication the Human Services Department presents the first biennial report on domestic violence in Seattle. This report will be followed by an update every two years with the goal of reporting trends and emerging issues that policy makers, funders, providers, and community members can use to direct policy and resource development and deployment.

Although Seattle has many progressive and innovative systems and services in place to assist domestic violence victims and their children and to hold batterers' accountable for their actions, much remains to be accomplished before the crime of domestic violence is eradicated from our community.

This report presents data from a variety of criminal justice and community based sources, much of it for the first time, and from the growing body of research literature. This report paints a vivid picture of the "state" of domestic violence in Seattle and the surrounding community, what we are doing to respond to the problems identified, and recommendations for the future.

I'd like to acknowledge and thank Amy Heyden, Planning and Development Specialist II in this office who prepared the bulk of this report. Additionally, thanks to Marilyn Littlejohn, Office of Policy and Management, and prior director of this office, and Jennifer Moon, also formerly of this office, for their efforts in launching the idea for this report, and for identifying and gathering a portion of the data presented here. And lastly, a hearty thanks to the many other contributors who are formerly acknowledged elsewhere in the report.

I'd also like to recognize and thank the many who work tirelessly and passionately on a daily basis to address the multiple and varied impacts of domestic violence through the excellent criminal justice and community based systems currently in place. This report reflects the efforts put forth by all who work to end this pervasive problem. But most importantly, I'd like to recognize the victims and survivors of domestic violence, young and old, many of whom endure unspeakable punishment at the hands of their abusers. You inspire us in our work and guide and inform our decisions.

We hope that you, the reader, find this information helpful in furthering your understanding of domestic violence, the City of Seattle's response to this problem, and the challenges that lay ahead for all of us. For it will take all of us, working in big and small ways, to end domestic violence.

Terri Kimball
Director, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Division
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TOWARD SAFETY AND JUSTICE

Domestic Violence in Seattle, 2006

What is Domestic Violence?

There is a broad consensus about the behavioral definition of domestic violence among researchers and service providers nationally and internationally. The American Bar Association¹ provides the following definition of domestic violence:

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that one intimate partner or spouse exerts over another as a means of control. Domestic violence may include physical violence, coercion, threats, intimidation, isolation, and emotional, sexual or economic abuse. Frequently, perpetrators use the children to manipulate victims: by harming or abducting the children, by threatening to harm or abduct the children, by forcing the children to participate in abuse of the victim, by using visitation as an occasion to harass or monitor victims, or by fighting protracted custody battles to punish victims. Perpetrators often invent complex rules about what victims or the children can or cannot do, and force victims to abide by these frequently changing rules.

Domestic violence is not defined solely by specific physical acts, but by a combination of psychological, social and familial factors. In some families, perpetrators of domestic violence may routinely beat their spouses until they require medical attention. In other families, the physical violence may have occurred in the past; perpetrators may currently exert power and control over their partners simply by looking at them a certain way or reminding them of prior episodes. In still other families, the violence may be sporadic, but may have the effect of controlling the abused partner.

In domestic violence, the batterer has a deep personal knowledge of the victim's lifestyle, needs, and vulnerabilities, and may have unlimited access to the victim, and the victim's children, friends, and family members. The victim is often terrified of the batterer, and this fear is based on her experience of the behavior and threats by the batterer. The consequences of disclosing the violence may include further violence by the batterer as "punishment," loss of custody of her children, further isolation from supportive friends and family members, loss of her home, and other essential resources. This fear greatly enhances the batterer's ability to control and to abuse her.

Domestic violence victims trying to protect themselves and their children may need housing, clothing, food, medical assistance, police response, employee assistance, civil legal assistance and protection, criminal justice system action, counseling, translation services, monetary assistance, transportation, hospitalization, shelter protection, and more. They need help from family, friends, and community.

Women in heterosexual relationships make up the majority of persons experiencing domestic violence, but it can occur in any type of relationship — married, separated, divorced, dating, heterosexual, gay or lesbian. It involves people of all races, ethnicities, socio-economic classes, religions and ages, and spills into our schools and our places of work.

Executive Summary

This first ever report on domestic violence in Seattle serves as a baseline comparison for subsequent reports. The data contained in this report is from the 2006 calendar year unless otherwise noted.

The purpose of this report is to educate and inform policy makers, service providers, and community members about the City's investment in fighting the crime of domestic violence and providing services to victims, the extent and scope of domestic violence in our community, the progress being made to prevent and overcome the problem and efforts to hold batterers accountable for their actions. This report aims to raise awareness of all aspects of domestic violence – what it is, who and how many people it affects, the community's response, and unmet needs.

City's Investment

The City's investment to fight the crime of domestic violence and to provide services and supports for victims of domestic violence has steadily increased over the years reaching a total of \$15,269,860 in expended funds for 2006. Of this total, \$13,550,464 was local tax payer support (General Fund), \$1,719,306 was grant funds (primarily federal grant support), and \$89,580 was in-kind volunteer support for the Seattle Police Department's (SPD) Victim Support Team.

Overall, the City invested 75% of funding in criminal justice departments, generally for fighting the crime of domestic violence, but also for some victim support services, and 25% of funding in the Human Services Department (HSD) for community-based victim services, batterer intervention programs, prevention programs, and homelessness.

Scope of Domestic Violence in Our Community

The rate of *major domestic violence crimes* (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) in Seattle has been declining since 1997 from 150 incidents per 100,000 to 110 incidents per 100,000 people in 2006.

Over the last 10-year period, there were 113 domestic violence homicides and 33 abuser suicides in King County.

There is a significantly declining trend in the rate of domestic violence simple assaults (unlawful attack or attempted attack by one person upon another in which no weapon was used and which did not result in serious or aggravated injury to the victim) in Seattle from 633.7 per 100,000 people in 1997 to 437.2 per 100,000 in 2006.

In 2006 Group Health Cooperative (GHC) conducted a telephone survey of 3,429 randomly sampled adult women insured by GHC for at least 3 years, asking about their exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV). While this sample is not representative of all women in Washington, it does indicate that intimate partner violence in the state is common: 44% of respondents reported experiencing IPV in their lifetime.

Data from Seattle-funded community-based domestic violence agencies indicate that the typical client was between the ages of 17 to 59, is poor (67% were very low income, HUD guidelines), is likely a person of color and/or Hispanic, and 27% of those served were immigrants or refugees.

The majority (80%) of Seattle victims seeking protection orders were females seeking orders against their male abusers. The majority of abusers were current or former spouses (30%), current or former live-in partners (20%), or had a child in common with the victim (11%). The majority of those seeking protection orders were Caucasian (51%), or black/African American (25%).

Police responded to 11,165 domestic violence related 911 calls, or approximately 5% of all calls. Of these, 6,514 resulted in written reports by the responding officer, including 1,933 arrests.

Of the incident reports received, 911 were assigned as felony cases and received further investigation; 405 were misdemeanor reports that were assigned for further investigation while 3,095 misdemeanor reports did not need additional investigation and were referred to the City Attorney's Office (CAO).

The CAO received 3,500 misdemeanor domestic violence incident reports from SPD. This resulted in 1,771 misdemeanor cases being pursued by the CAO. Of these, 2,731 charges were filed against defendants: 64% resulted in offenders being found guilty, pleading guilty, negotiating a plea, or stipulating to the facts of the case and entering a diversion program.

Of the 1,164 offenders charged and sentenced for domestic violence offenses, 65% were ordered to domestic violence treatment by Seattle Municipal Court (SMC). SMC probation closed batterer intervention treatment plans on 319 offenders. Of these 70% completed batterers intervention and the remainder did not.

Progress and Gaps

While national and local data indicate that the incidence of domestic violence is decreasing—the investment and efforts to combat domestic violence appear to be paying off—the problem persists. Responding to domestic violence is expensive, demanding, and heartbreaking. It is also uplifting. Many good people and organizations in our community are working hard to solve these problems. The City of Seattle is deeply committed to improving the criminal justice and community-based response to domestic violence by gauging our progress to date, identifying needs and gaps, and planning for the future. This effort includes strategic planning with key partners, securing funding, launching new initiatives, and implementing prevention strategies.

Improvements are needed to civil legal services for victims of domestic violence. In 2007, the City funded a community-based legal services agency to provide civil legal services to victims of domestic violence using a three tiered process. In Tier 1, attorneys will provide indirect assistance to domestic violence survivors through community-based and systems-based domestic violence advocates. In Tier 2, attorneys will provide brief in-person legal consultation sessions to domestic violence survivors. In Tier 3, attorneys will provide direct representation to domestic violence survivors faced with the most complex legal issues. These services are intended to improve the safety and financial status of domestic violence survivors.

Mental health providers need training to learn more about domestic violence and domestic violence providers need to learn more about mental health. A U.S. Department of Justice grant will be used for a three-year pilot project focusing on the needs of domestic violence survivors with mental health issues. Grant activities will include cross-training for staff in domestic violence, mental health, and chemical dependency on culturally appropriate services for victims of domestic violence who are disabled by mental health issues. The project will also serve to strengthen relationships among providers, develop protocols for case consultation, and provide technical assistance as needed.

Improvements to timely entry of victims into shelter are needed. Currently, victims must make a number of calls to community based providers in order to access shelters for safety purposes. Shelter vacancies are scarce, agencies do not keep waiting lists, and no single entity keeps a real-time domestic violence shelter bed inventory. The City, together with community partners, is exploring real-time web-based shelter bed inventory software and procedures with the goal of implementing a system whereby callers get connected with shelter services with just one call.

We need more housing for victims and their children fleeing abusive relationships. The ability to obtain stable, supportive housing is often the pivotal factor that allows victims to permanently leave their abusers. A newly awarded Department of Justice grant, *Bridges to Housing*, will provide rental assistance and supportive services to transition 18 families into permanent housing over three years.

We need to build capacity within the defense bar to advocate for and defend domestic violence survivors who have been charged with crimes (victim defendants). In 2007, the City contracted with a local coalition to provide victim defendant training for the defense bar and to enhance defender linkages for victim defendants.

Other efforts are also under way, including continued implementation of the 2005-2009 Criminal Justice Strategic Plan which details specific actions, many based on best practices, that various City departments will undertake to improve outcomes. We look forward to tracking our progress over the years and to generating the next biennial report in 2008 that will highlight trends and issues.

Introduction

Domestic violence is a pervasive and destructive societal problem that affects individuals of all socioeconomic, racial, gender, age and other demographic groups. For nearly 30 years, the City of Seattle has developed and funded new and aggressive criminal justice and community-based systems and programs for holding batterers accountable and for helping victims and survivors gain safety. This report, the first of similar reports to be published every two years, describes these efforts and presents compelling data that provide a comprehensive overview of domestic violence in Seattle.

The purpose of this report is to educate and inform policy makers, service providers, and community members about the City's investment in fighting the crime of domestic violence and providing services to victims, the extent and scope of domestic violence in our community, the progress being made to prevent and overcome the problem and efforts to hold batterers accountable for their actions. This report aims to raise awareness of all aspects of domestic violence – what it is, who and how many people it affects, the community's response, and unmet needs.

We are making progress in addressing domestic violence, but gaps remain in services, capacity, and research-based interventions. The domestic violence “movement” is still in its infancy: efforts to legislate new laws, obtain federal funding, and provide services for victims began only 35 years ago.

We are still learning how to best approach this problem – we've come a long way, but have a long way to go.

This report acknowledges existing programs that provide assistance to victims and the criminal justice response to batterers. The report highlights the scope of the problem through prevalence, incidence, and qualitative data, and presents demographics on victims utilizing City-funded services and batterers who have been mandated to City-funded treatment programs. Despite the number and variety of services available to domestic violence victims in Seattle, there is a greater demand for services than can be accommodated.

A few notes about our research methodology. The data was collected from a variety of sources, including domestic violence agencies, batterer intervention program providers, Seattle Police Department, City Attorney's Office, Seattle Municipal Court, King County government agencies, national research, and others. See the Notes section that begins on page 39. Most data is from calendar year 2006, unless otherwise noted. This report also relies on Seattle data, however, where that data wasn't available, King County or Washington state data has been used. Because the majority of victims of domestic violence are women, this report refers to victims as women. However, it is important to recognize that gay men and some heterosexual men are also victims. Also, the report focuses on domestic violence between intimate partners – current or former spouses, non-married partners, or dating partners – so the terms “domestic violence” and “intimate partner violence” are used interchangeably.

Toward Safety and Justice: Domestic Violence in Seattle is the first report of its kind that includes criminal justice data, as well as demographic, service, and other data on the status of domestic violence in Seattle. In future reports, we anticipate analyzing trends over time, which will reveal a more detailed picture on domestic violence in Seattle.

The City's Investment

In 2006, the City of Seattle invested close to \$15.3 million to address the criminal elements of domestic violence and to provide services for victims and survivors. The largest portion of these funds, \$11,370,929 (75%) was invested in the criminal justice system including the Seattle Police Department, the City Law Department, Seattle Municipal Court, and Criminal Justice Contracted Services.

The remaining \$3,898,931 (25%) was invested through the Human Services Department's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Division: \$2,801,091 for shelter and transition housing, advocacy, specific contracted service for systems building, and prevention of domestic violence.

In addition, the City invests in general homeless services, and these programs are administered by the Human Services Department's Homeless Intervention and Block Grant Administration Division. According to the One-Night-Count of homeless people held in January 2007, 19% of homeless people using City-funded shelters and transitional housing programs (not including those funded specifically for domestic violence victims) self identified as victims of domestic violence. Applying this percentage to the City's investment in funding these homeless programs, it was determined that \$1,097,840 assisted victims of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Funding and Percent Change by City Agency From 2001 to 2006

City Agency	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
City Law Dept.	1,562,090	1,623,975	1,609,977	1,560,976	1,513,856	1,522,699
Human Services Dept.	3,974,732	3,697,330	3,393,603	3,096,381	3,304,743	3,898,931
Seattle Municipal Court	613,655	697,853	787,094	986,732	1,474,183	1,510,740
Criminal Justice Contracted Svcs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,417,898	1,387,658	1,450,375
Seattle Police Dept.	6,421,349	6,776,949	6,482,729	6,160,302	6,177,599	6,887,115
Total Funding	\$12,571,826	\$12,796,107	\$12,273,403	\$13,222,289	\$13,858,039	\$15,269,860

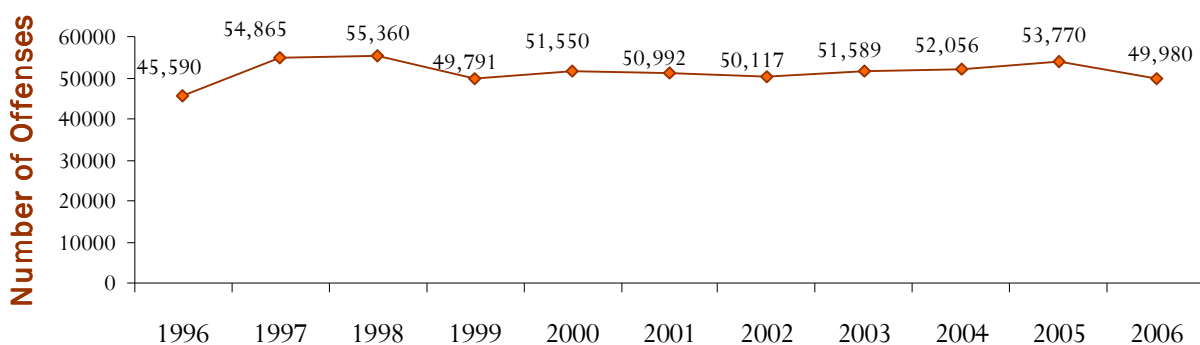
The City's investment has increased since 2001. Of the total 2006 investment, \$13,550,464 was local tax payer support (General Fund), \$1,719,306 was grant funding (primarily federal grants, specifically the Department of Justice's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies) and \$89,580 was in-kind volunteer support for the Seattle Police Department's (SPD) Victim Support Team.

It is important to note that many additional sources of funding, including United Way, King County, other local city governments, and local and national foundations, contribute to the cost of fighting the crime of domestic violence and providing services to victims and prevention efforts.

Prevalence of Domestic Violence – Locally and Nationally

Because of its prevalence, domestic violence makes a significant impact on the criminal and civil justice systems, the workplace, health care systems, faith communities, schools, social service and welfare agencies, and overall community stability and safety.² This is true here in Seattle.

Reported Domestic Violence Offenses in Washington State 1996-2006



Source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, *Crime in Washington: 2006 Annual Report*

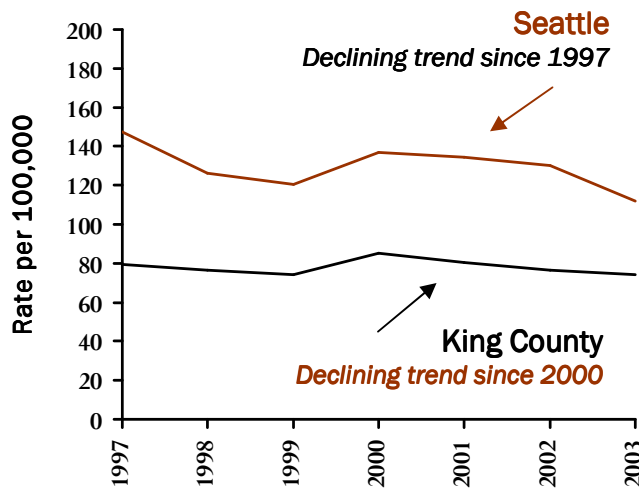
Domestic violence continues to be a serious issue for the health and safety of women and children across the state of Washington. According to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (www.waspc.org), the number of reported domestic violence offenses statewide has risen slightly from 1996 to 2005, along with increases in population.³ On average, 50,000 incidents of domestic violence are reported each year statewide, but this represents only domestic violence-related offenses that are reported to law enforcement, so the actual incidents of domestic violence occurring each year in Washington state may be higher.

Local and National Rates of Domestic Violence Declining

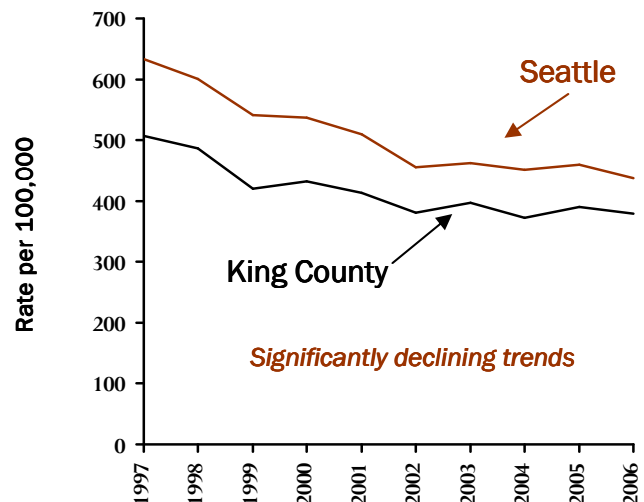
In Seattle, the rates of major domestic violence crimes (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) have been on the decline since 1997.⁴ Among King County regions, Seattle has the highest rate of major domestic violence crimes (a 10-year average of 124 per 100,000 people).⁵ Although this is the highest rate in King County, Seattle's rate of domestic violence crimes has declined from nearly 150 incidents per 100,000 people in 1997 to 110 incidents in 2006.

Additionally, there is a significantly declining trend in the rates of domestic violence simple assaults in Seattle.⁶ The rates of domestic violence simple assaults in Seattle have declined from 633.7 per 100,000 people in 1997 to 437.2 in 2006. These domestic violence simple assault rates along with the major domestic violence crimes are from reported crimes, and as such may not reflect the true scope of domestic violence in our community.

Rate of Domestic Violence Crimes Seattle and King County 1997-2006



Rate of Domestic Violence Simple Assaults Seattle and King County 1997-2006

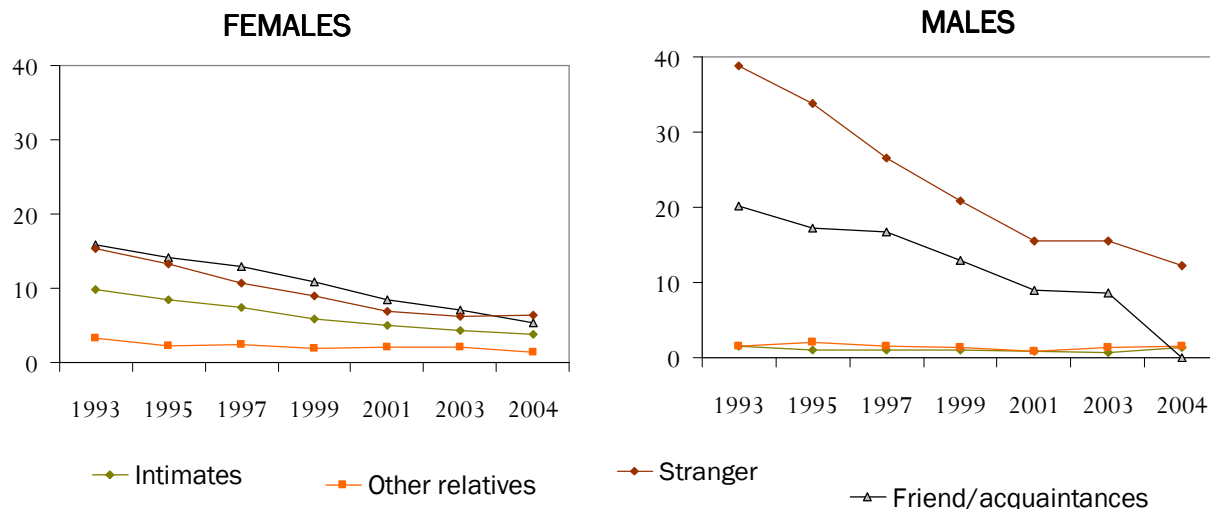


Source: Crime in Washington annual reports, WASPC; 2006 rate is provisional based on 2005 population data

These declining trends in domestic violence crimes locally mirror national trends in both overall crime rates and domestic violence rates. According to the National Crime Victimization Survey, nonfatal violence has been decreasing nationally since 1993 regardless of the relationship between the victim and offender,⁷ however, the decline in the rate of intimate partner violence was less than for strangers or acquaintances.

Nonfatal violent victimization rate by victim/offender relationship and victim gender, 1993-2004

Rate per 1,000 individuals age 12 or older



Source: Catalano, Shannan, Ph.D. Intimate Partner Violence in the United States, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006

Nationally the evidence suggests that the prevalence of domestic violence is decreasing.⁸ In 2004, non-fatal intimate partner violence against females was about four victimizations per 1,000 persons 12 and older, down from about 10 in 1993. For male victims of nonfatal violence, the rate of intimate partner victimizations has remained low and fairly consistent over time.

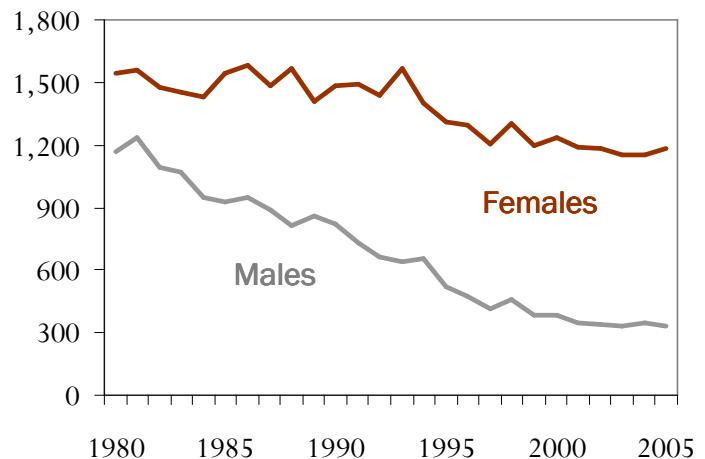
Intimate Partner Homicide

There is also a decline nationally in homicide of intimate partners, especially male victims. According to a national report on homicide trends, the number of men murdered by intimates has dropped by 75% since 1976, and after remaining stable for nearly two decades, the number of women killed by an intimate partner has been declining since 1993 reaching a record low in 2004.⁹ Interestingly, as women victims of domestic violence have had increased access to services, primarily shelter and advocacy services, they are less likely to kill their abuser.

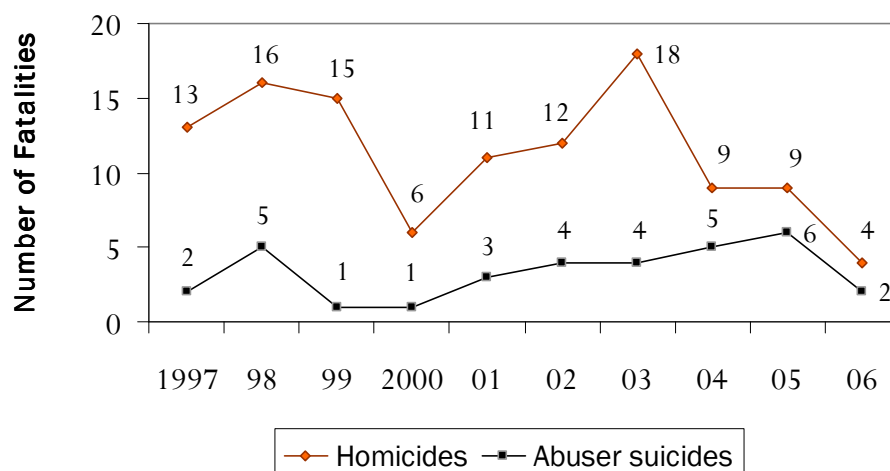
In Washington State, over the last 10 years, a total of 558 people died in domestic violence-related incidents – this is defined much more broadly than just intimate partner homicides and is used to represent the true death toll of domestic violence.¹⁰ This figure includes 417 homicides of domestic violence victims, their children, friends, family members, and law enforcement, and homicides in which victims killed their abuser. Additionally, this total includes 141 abuser suicides. Over this same 10 year period, in King County, there were 113 domestic violence homicides and 33 abuser suicides.

Homicides of intimates by gender of victim 1980-2005

Number of victims



Domestic Violence Fatalities in King County 1997-2006



As with the number of domestic violence incidents reported each year in Washington State, the number of domestic violence fatalities is believed to be an undercount due to the fact that some homicides may be unsolved, mistakenly classified as accidents, or unreported.¹¹

Women as Primary Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

Women are the primary victims of intimate partner violence. Nationally, on average between 1993-2004, intimate partner violence represented 22% of nonfatal violence against women and 3% of nonfatal violence against men.¹² The impact and severity of intimate partner violence is more significant for women. Half of female intimate partner violence victims surveyed suffered an injury (376,910 out of 746,580 total female intimate partner victims); whereas, just over one-third of male intimate partner violence victims were injured (45,360 out of 124,930 total male intimate partner victims). Three out of every 10 women who are murdered are killed by an intimate partner; 1 in 20 male homicide victims are murdered by intimates.

The data appear to indicate that prevalence of domestic violence is decreasing. Yet, even within a context of overall crime reduction and declining trends in domestic violence crimes, the disproportional impact of domestic violence on women is quite clear.

Max Walsh

I met her on the dance floor. Things weren't going well in my current relationship, and she was caring and charismatic.

I broke up with my partner and we began seeing each other.

Oh, my God, I was in love! I dropped out of school, in part so I could spend more time with her. She was the center of my universe, and she wanted it that way. "If you really loved me..." she said one night when she didn't want me to go out with a friend.

The jealousy and guilt-tripping got worse. Even if I wanted to go out with people I'd known since childhood, she would call me a slut and accuse me of being unfaithful. She would show up unexpectedly at my work, at events, even outside my bedroom window waiting for me to come home.

She never hit me, but she did throw a punch once, intending to miss, but still intimidate. It worked. She was a black belt.

The relationship felt wrong, but I didn't seek help until five different friends in one week told me they didn't like the way she was treating me. One gave me a card for a support organization, and with their help, I learned what was really going on in my relationship: the isolation, the manipulation, the ways I'd molded myself to accommodate her in the false hope that she would change.

I learned that domestic violence is an epidemic that affects everybody, no matter their sexual preference. It's not okay to pretend it's a private matter between two people. It's not. It needs to be a subject in our schools, houses and communities.

There's no batterers school, but the world teaches us very well how violence works. It's about time we give equal attention to preventing it.



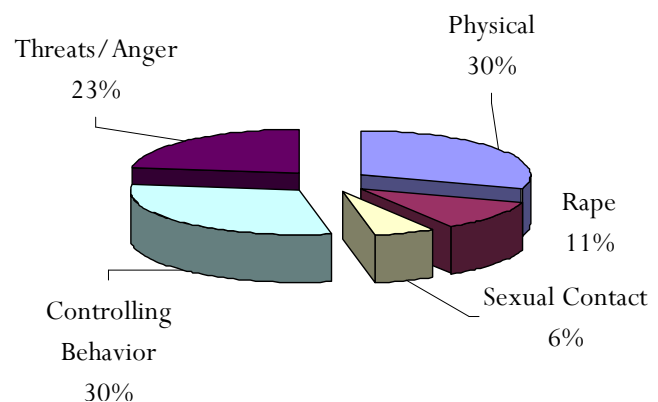
Local Survey Information on Domestic Violence

In 2006, Group Health Cooperative conducted a telephone survey of 3,429 randomly sampled adult women insured for at least three years by Group Health in Washington State asking about their exposure to intimate partner violence. While this sample is not representative of all women in Washington, this research does indicate that intimate partner violence (IPV) in the state is common – 44 percent or nearly 1 out of every 2 women randomly surveyed reported having experienced IPV during their adult lifetime.¹³ In this study, intimate partner violence was defined as physical (including forced sex and sexual contact) and nonphysical abuse (threats/anger and controlling behavior).¹⁴ Women who reported experiencing IPV during their adult lifetime reported a range of abuse – from physical to sexual to controlling behavior and threats. This study also reported that intimate partner violence is typically not a one-time event but that it occurs across women's lifetimes.

A 2005 public health survey that randomly sampled approximately 3,200 households in King County found that 14% of Seattle respondents and 13.6% of King County respondents reported that an intimate partner had hit, slapped, pushed, kicked or physically hurt them at some point in their life.¹⁵ Similarly, approximately 10% of Seattle and 11% of King County respondents said that an intimate partner had threatened them with physical violence during their lifetime. Both men and women responded to this survey, although the number of male respondents was smaller than female respondents. Both genders reported being victimized by intimate partner violence.

Although the Group Health study and the public health survey sampled different populations (women only versus women and men), which may explain the differing results, there are similarities in the survey tool used (the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System) and the questions that were asked.

Types of Violence Experienced by Women Reporting IPV in their Adult Lifetimes



Source: Thompson RS, et al. *Intimate Partner Violence: Prevalence, Types, and Chronicity in Adult Women*, American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2006

Portrait of DV Victims Who Use City-Funded Programs

Domestic violence crosses ethnic, racial, age, national origin, religious and socioeconomic lines, and same-sex battering occurs at approximately the same rate as opposite sex battering. There is no specific age, race or personality profile for a victim, nor is there a simple predictive profile to determine whether someone is a batterer. Victims of domestic violence are predominantly female, and batterers are predominantly male, according to several national studies.

In this section, we will examine statistics related to domestic violence survivors who access services from City of Seattle funded domestic violence agencies. It is important to understand that this group is not reflective of victims of domestic violence in general. Only a fraction of those experiencing domestic violence ever access services, and service utilization may be affected by many factors, including what other resources the victim has, cultural and physical accessibility of services, community attitudes towards domestic violence, help-seeking, and criminal justice/social services.

In this report, the terms “victim” and “survivor” are used interchangeably. The term “victim” typically is used within a criminal justice or legal context, while “survivor” is used by community-based agencies to stress the empowerment of the individual.

In King County, there are three main crisis lines for domestic violence victims, and combined, these lines received 27,106 calls in 2006.¹⁶ Another emergency resource in King County is the Crisis Clinic, which refers domestic violence callers to the domestic violence agency in their region. Over the past four years there has been an overall increase in the number of domestic violence calls received by the Crisis Clinic. The largest increase (40%) occurred between 2005 and 2006, and this may be attributable to the 2-1-1 community resources line that began operating in February 2006.¹⁷

Domestic violence is one of the key contributors to homelessness, particularly among families with children.¹⁸ According to the 2007 One Night Count report prepared by the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness, there were 1,098 people (19%) accessing shelter and transitional housing programs on the night of the count on January 26, 2007 who had experienced violence or abuse within the past year.¹⁹ Just over half of these people (589) were adults (almost all of whom were women) and 509 were children.

In 2007, there are a total of 211 shelter beds/units/apartments specifically for victims of domestic violence in all of King County.²⁰ This service is vastly oversubscribed, and shelters are always full – there is no excess capacity in the current system. Gaining access to a domestic violence shelter is generally first-come, first-served and waiting lists are not kept. In 2006, for every domestic violence victim served by a local DV shelter, 20 other requests for shelter were turned away.²¹ Several local domestic violence service providers have or are in the process of converting from communal shelters to apartment-based shelters where each family stays in their own unit. One result of this change is that length of stay has increased, which is beneficial for families in a number of ways, but it also reduces the number of individuals/families who can be served during the year. The following table shows the average length of stay for 2006 by program.

Type of Emergency Shelter	Agency	Avg. Length of Stay
Communal living	Domestic Abuse Women's Network (South King County)	27 days
	New Beginnings (Seattle)	28 days
	Salvation Army Catherine Booth House (Seattle)	30 days
Scattered-site individual apartments	Eastside Domestic Violence Program (East King County)	3 months
	International District Housing Alliance (Seattle)	5 months

City-funded Programs Primarily Serve Poor Women and their Children

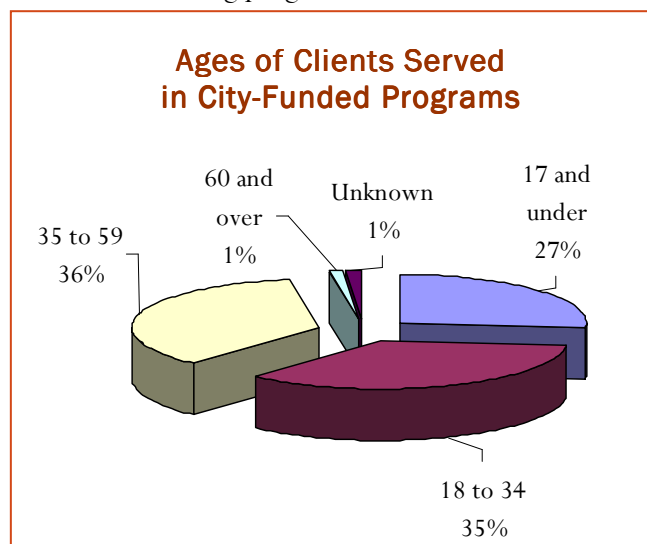
This report relies on data from domestic violence agencies that receive funding from the City of Seattle to provide services to victims, and data from more than 300 applications for civil protection orders from Seattle residents at the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Protection Order Advocacy Program office. The data in this report is only about victims who accessed and received services. It is not intended to be representative of all victims.

In 2006, through contracts with 12 domestic violence agencies,²² 2,269 individuals – including 1,633 adults and 606 children – received services through City-funded programs. The types of services fall into two categories: victim advocacy services, and safe, confidential housing.²³

Nearly 85% of survivors participating in City-funded victim advocacy programs in 2006 were from Seattle. The remaining participants were from east, north, and south King County, other locations outside the county, or their last permanent address was unknown. In the housing program, over half (52%) of the households served in 2006 were from Seattle.

Age

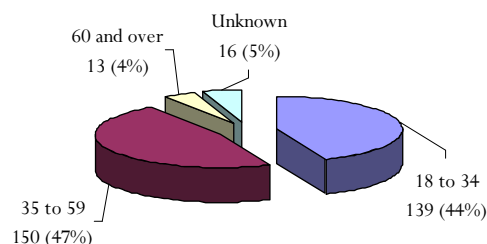
Combined, the victim advocacy and housing programs served a wide range of ages in 2006. The majority of individuals served (71%) were between the ages of 18 and 59. Those clients in the 17-and-under category were predominantly children served in the housing program. In terms of gender of the 2,269 individuals served through the victim advocacy and housing programs, 1,879 (82.8%) were female, 381 (16.7%) were male, 8 (0.4%) were transgender/other; and 1 (0.04%) was unknown.



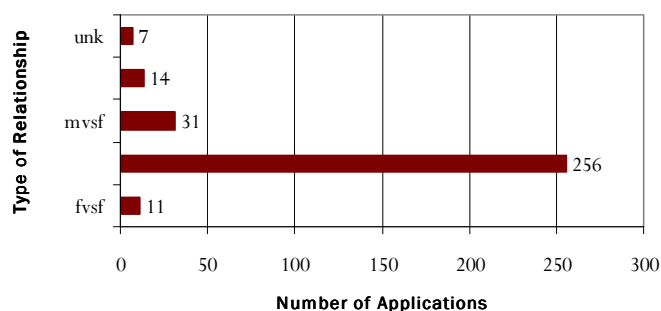
Protection Order Program

The demographics for Seattle residents applying for protection orders mirror those of victims served by City-funded programs. The majority of victims seeking protection orders were between the ages of 18 and 59. Of the 319 complete protection order applications reviewed, 139 petitioners (44%) were between the ages of 18 and 34; 150 petitioners (47%) were 35 to 59 years of age; 13 (4%) were 60 and over; and 16 (5%) did not include their age on the application.

Protection Order - Petitioners' Age



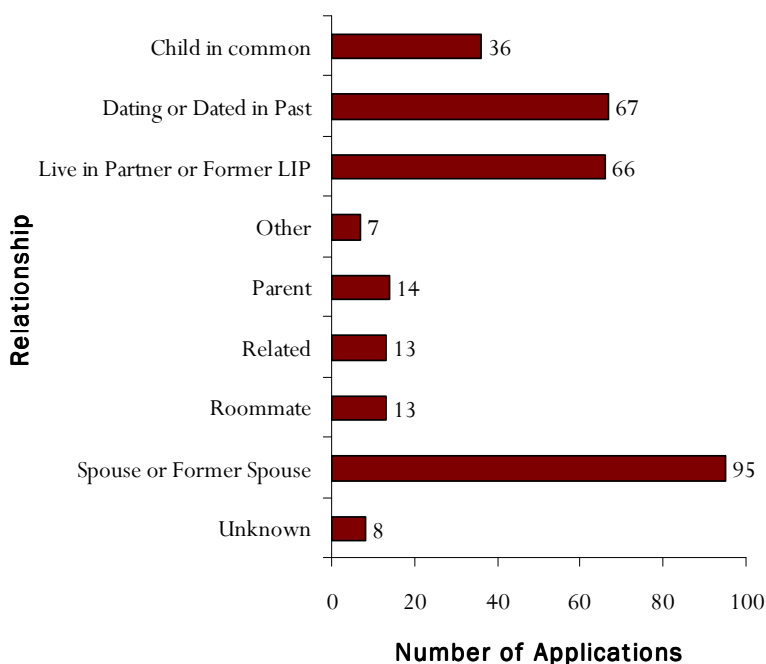
Protection Orders - Petitioner-Respondent



The majority of protection order applicants were women who were requesting a protection order against a male abuser (the respondent). In 256 out of 319 cases (80%), the petitioner for a protection order was a female and the respondent was a male. There were 31 cases (10%) where the petitioner was a male filing a protection order application against a female. There were 25 cases (8%) where the petitioner and the respondent were the same sex.

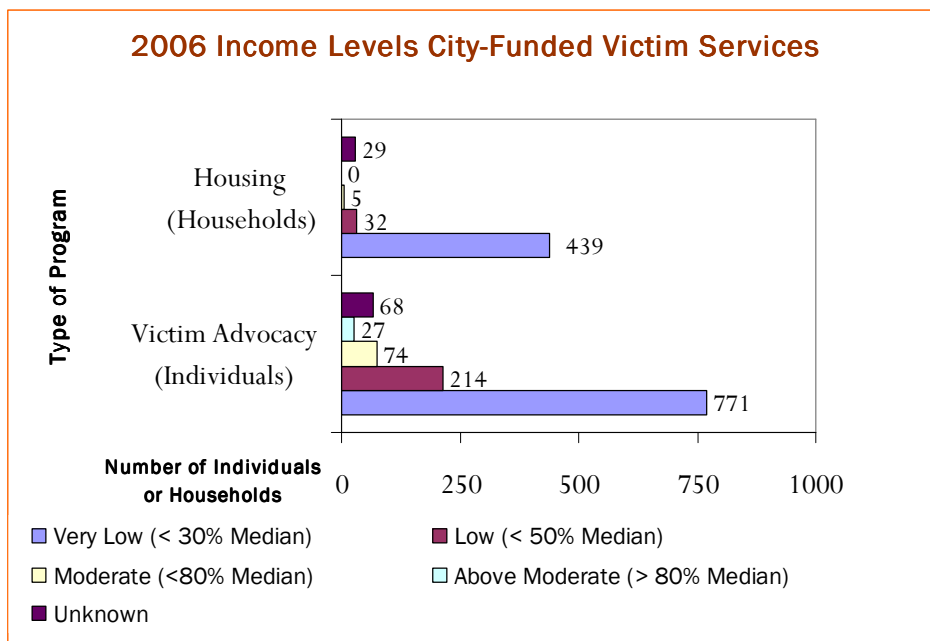
From the protection order applications, additional information was available about the type of relationship between the victim (petitioner) and respondent (batterer). Of the 319 cases reviewed, the majority involved intimate partner relationships. In 95 cases (30%), the petitioner and respondent were current or former spouses. Current and former live-in partners represented 66 (20%) of the cases, and dating and past dating partners accounted for another 67 (20%) of the cases. Thirty-six cases (11%) were from petitioners that listed 'child in common' as the relationship with the respondent. The remaining 19% of cases were non-intimate partner relationships, such as a parent requesting a protection order against a child or a roommate filing a protection order request against another roommate.

**Protection Orders: Petitioner-Respondent
Type of Relationship**



Economic Status

Data from City-funded victim advocacy and housing programs provide insight on the economic status of domestic violence victims who access services. Individuals and households served by these programs were predominately in the very-low-income category. Of the 1,154 individuals served in the victim advocacy program, 771 participants or 67% were very-low-income with an income less than 30% median of 2006 HUD guidelines (or \$16,350 annual income for an individual); 214 or (19%) were low income (or between \$16,351 and \$27,250 annual income for an individual); another 101(9%) were in the moderate or above moderate category (or annual incomes greater than \$41,700 for an individual); and 68 or 5% were unknown. Of the 505 households served in the housing program, 439 or 87% were in the very-low-income category. Income categories often assume that victims have access to household income when in reality their abuser is in complete control of the finances and the victim may not have access to any of the household income.

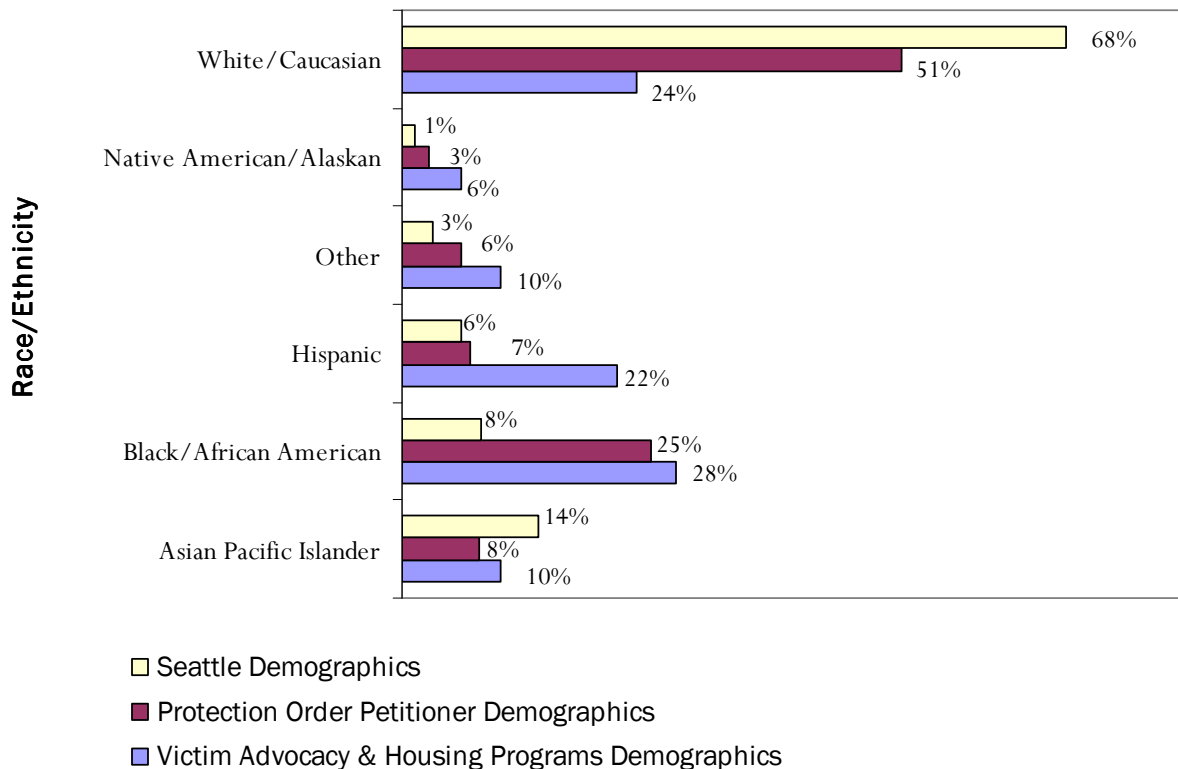


Race and Ethnicity

The racial and ethnic make-up of Seattle domestic violence victims accessing City-funded services or applying for protection orders is quite varied. In the victim advocacy and housing programs, African Americans (28%), white/Caucasians (24%) and Hispanics/Latino (22%) made up the majority of clients served during 2006 with Asian Pacific Islanders, Native American/Alaska Natives, and other making up the remaining 26%. For Seattle protection order applicants, 51% were white/Caucasians, 25% were black/African Americans and the remaining 24% were comprised of Native American-Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islanders or others.

The chart below compares Seattle race/ethnicity demographics (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey) to those of the victim advocacy and housing programs participants and protection order applicants.²⁴ White/Caucasians make up over two-thirds (68%) of the City's population. Just over half of protection order applicants from Seattle were white/Caucasians and only one-quarter (24%) of the victim advocacy and housing program participants. Whereas blacks/African Americans represent 8% of the City's population, they represented one-quarter (25%) of protection order applicants and over one-quarter (28%) of City-funded program participants. Similarly, Hispanics make up 6% of the city's population, yet nearly one-quarter (22%) of City-funded victim service program participants.

Comparison of Race/Ethnicity of Victims Accessing Services

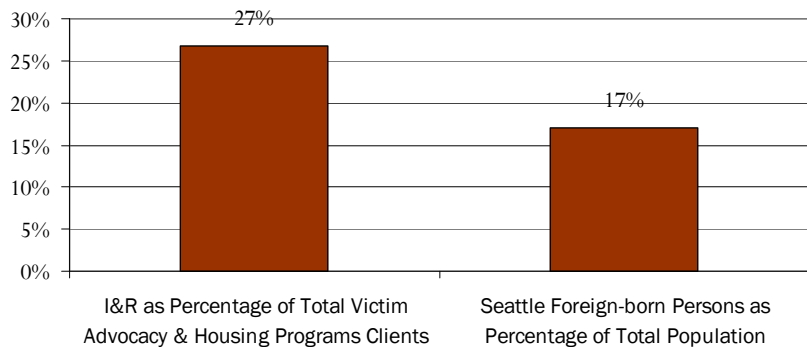


The need for services is not necessarily the same across demographic groups. Utilization rates may be influenced by a variety of factors, including income level, service accessibility, immigration status, and cultural values.

Immigrants and Refugees

One of the City of Seattle's priorities is to provide accessible linguistically and culturally appropriate services for immigrants and refugees. Overall, more than one quarter of clients (606 clients or 27%) served in the victim advocacy and housing programs in 2006 were immigrants or refugees. In Seattle, foreign-born persons make up 17% of the city's population, yet immigrants and refugees are accessing City-funded domestic violence services at much higher levels.²⁵

Immigrant and Refugee Comparison

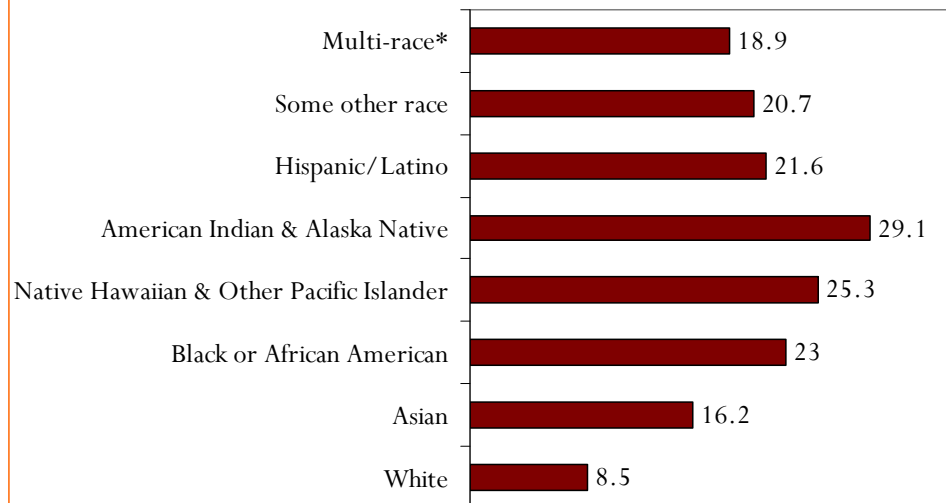


For immigrant and refugee Asian Pacific Islanders, for example, use of domestic violence services may be low because of the stigma and denial associated with domestic violence; fear and trauma related to immigration status and deportation, particularly for women whose status in the U.S. is dependent on their husbands; and lack of knowledge about available services.²⁶

Poverty

People of color and immigrants and refugees are over represented as users of the City-funded victim advocacy and housing programs when compared to local demographics. Poverty may play a significant role in why these populations are accessing services more frequently. The poverty rates for people of color and immigrants and refugees range from 16 to 29 percent compared to 8.5 percent for white residents of Seattle.²⁷ Although all victims of domestic violence are not poor, people of color and immigrants and refugees are disproportionately impacted by poverty and City-funded domestic violence services may be their only resource.

Percent in Poverty Among Race Groups & Hispanics in Seattle, 2000



Summary

From the information presented above, the portrait of a domestic violence victim in Seattle using City-funded services becomes clearer. Women are predominately the victims of domestic violence in our community. Domestic violence victims are typically between the ages of 18 and 59, and this wide range of ages means that services for victims must accommodate single women, women with children, and women reaching retirement age. Economically, those victims seeking services at City-funded agencies tend to fall in the very-low- or low- income categories, meaning that many victims and their children live in poverty, which can make leaving an abusive relationship much more challenging if the victim is economically dependent on her batterer. Domestic violence also affects all racial and ethnic groups in our community. City-funded programs and protection orders are being accessed by women from traditionally marginalized communities. As this is the first year of this report, comparisons over time are not possible now; however, future reports will track demographic trends among domestic violence victims.

Trese Todd

I met him at a faith-based college in the Bible belt. He was handsome, charming and devout, a soloist in his church choir.

Had I known that he was also controlling and violent, I never would have walked down that aisle. But abusers don't come with labels.

He would explode because dinner wasn't ready, or because the house wasn't spotless, or because I spent too much on groceries. I never knew what would trigger an outburst. What made him happy one week would send him into a rage the next.

Before I knew it, I was afraid of my husband all the time.

To control me, he used humiliation, isolation, sleep deprivation and threats. He punched walls and hurled things, but didn't physically hurt me – until I was seven months pregnant. He threw me down, and I knew then that he had crossed a dangerous line.

Three days before I ran, he pointed a gun at me. Somehow I managed to talk him down.

I packed in a panic and left Tennessee with my infant daughter in the middle of the night. I had one friend, in Seattle, and that was as far away as we could go.

Moving across country didn't end my agony. I got a restraining order, suffered in poverty, and endured constant conflicts trying to protect my daughter because he followed us and exercised his visitation rights. Nevertheless, I finally secured our safety, remarried and built a new life.

With the help of support groups, I overcame my fear and found my voice, but I also understand why so many others haven't.

Domestic violence isn't just happening to "those people." It's happening to men and women all around us. Most are hiding in shame and fear. They don't want pity. They just want safety... and justice.



Portrait of DV Batterers Who Use City-Funded Programs

While there is no predominant psychological or demographic profile for men who batter,²⁸ batterers have in common the use of specific tactics to dominate and control their intimate partners. These include physical, emotional and sexual abuse, threats, property destruction, and abuse of children. Batterers also have in common a clear belief in their entitlement to all of the power in their intimate relationship.

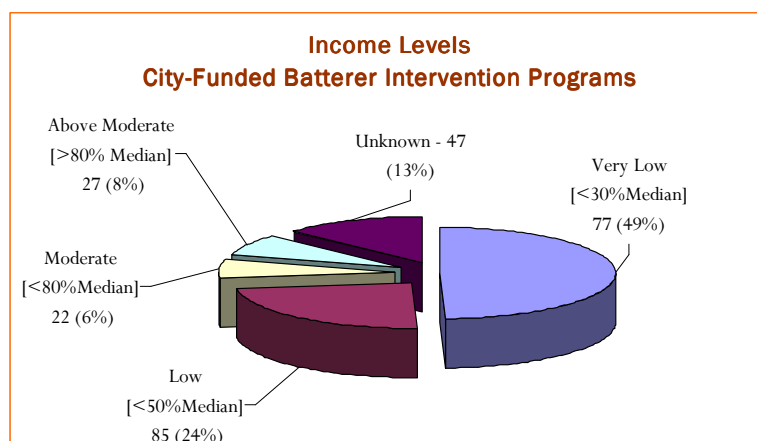
National Information on Batterers

According to the National Crime Victimization Survey,²⁹ there are several common characteristics of batterers. They are usually similar in age to their victims. Intimate partner violence is most frequently committed by individuals of opposite genders – 97% of females surveyed were victimized by a male. However, intimate partner violence occurs in same-sex relationships at similar rates to heterosexual relationships. A 10-year, 10-city study published in 1998 by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs found that 25-33% of same-sex relationships involve abuse.³⁰

Additionally, nearly 90% of white victims were victimized by white offenders, and 95% of black victims were victimized by black offenders.³¹ Female victims of intimate partner violence are more likely to face an offender with a firearm.³²

Local Information on Batterers in City-Funded Programs

As with the section on victims, this report uses local data from City-funded contracts with batterers intervention providers to illustrate who batterers are in our community. However, it is again important to realize that batterers who access intervention programs may not be reflective of all batterers in our community. In 2006, 358 batterers who met eligibility requirements enrolled in City-funded batterer intervention programs.³³ All 358 participants were adults. Nearly half (49%) were between the ages of 18 and 34, and the other half (48%) were between the ages of 35 and 59. Only 3% were over the age of 60. Males made up 351 or 98% of the participants in City-funded batterer intervention programs. Only 7 or 2% were female.



Economic Status

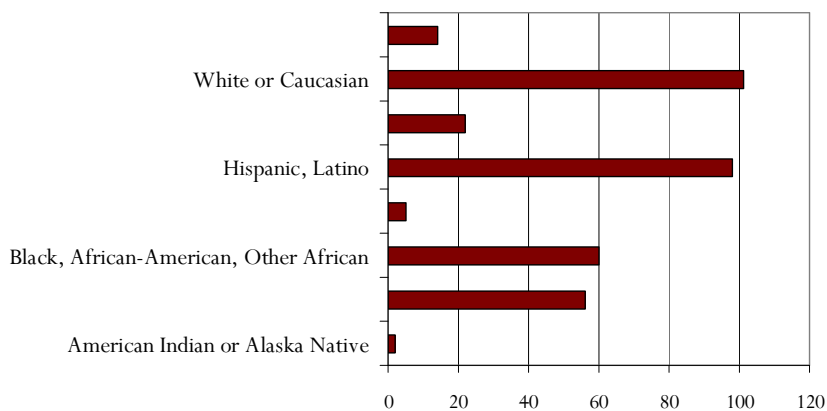
Nearly half (49%) of participants in City-funded batterer intervention programs were in the very-low-income category, which is less than 30% median of the 2006 HUD income guidelines (or less than \$16,350 annual income for an individual). Another quarter (24%) was in the low category, or less than 50% median of the HUD guidelines (or between \$16,351 and \$27,250 annual income for an individual).

The remaining quarter (27%) of participants was either moderate or above moderate (more than \$41,700 annual income for an individual) or unknown. This data may not be representative of all batterers in the community because City-funded programs prioritize supporting indigent batterers so that the financial barriers to accessing services are reduced for these batterers.

Race and Ethnicity

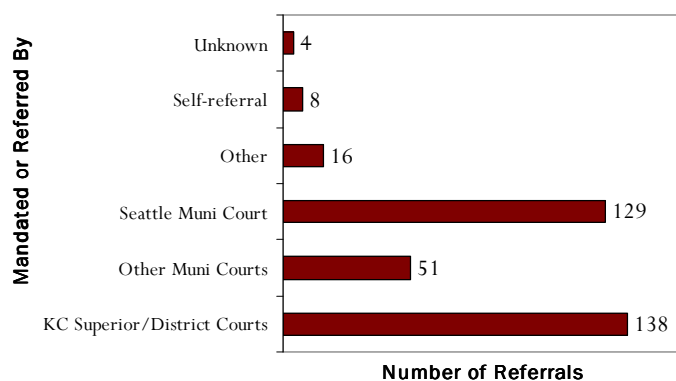
Two of the four batterer intervention providers that contract with the City of Seattle serve specialized populations. Asian Counseling and Referral Services works with Asian residents of Seattle and King County, and Consejo Counseling & Referral Service serves Hispanic/Latino residents of Seattle and King County. In the category Asian/Asian American, 44 of the 56 batterers were served by ACRS; and in the Hispanic/Latino category, 80 of the 98 batterers were served by Consejo. The emphasis of batterer intervention services on these two populations results in demographic information that does not correspond to the percentages of Asian/Asian Americans and Hispanic/Latinos in Seattle/King County.

Race/Ethnicity: City-Funded Batterer Intervention Programs



Additional Characteristics

City-Funded Batterer Intervention Programs Type of Mandate or Referral, 2006



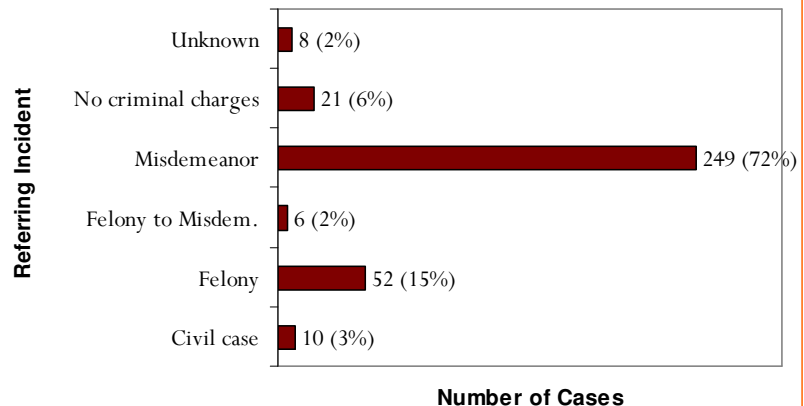
Superior or District Courts, 37% were mandated by the Seattle Municipal Court, and 15% were mandated by other municipal/county jurisdictions.

The City also reviewed the client records of 346 batterers residing in Seattle who were participating in batterer intervention programs during 2006 to get more detailed information on the characteristics of batterers in Seattle.³⁴

Of the 346 client records analyzed, the majority of batterers were mandated to batterer intervention programs by the court system. This data is dependent on self-reports from clients as well as the provider securing copies of court documents. Forty percent were mandated by the King County

In these 346 cases, the referring incident, or reason the batterer was mandated or referred to batterers intervention programs, was primarily a misdemeanor offense. Almost three-quarters (72%) of the client records showed that the batterer had been charged with a misdemeanor. Only 15% of the cases involved a felony crime. The remaining cases either involved no criminal charges, were civil cases, or the referring incident was unknown.

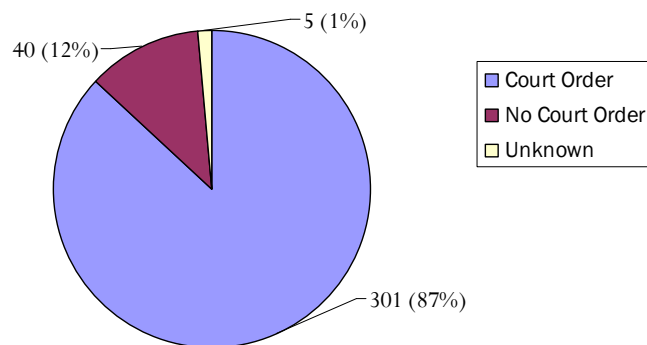
City-Funded Batterer Intervention Programs Participants Referring Incident, 2006



At the time of intake, 301 of the 346 (87%) batterer intervention program clients had a court order against them, either a criminal no-contract order, a civil protection order, or a restraining order. The information on court orders is dependent on self-reports from the client who during intake may not disclose the existence of court orders. It is also

dependent on the program provider to secure copies of all court documents related to each client to verify self-reported information.

Batterer Intervention Programs, 2006 Court Orders in Place at Time of Intake



Summary

In Seattle, batterers cross all age, socio-economic, race and ethnic groups. Batterers are typically men, although women comprise a very small percentage. **The data on race/ethnicity demographics is skewed due to the fact the two of the four batterer intervention programs funded**

by the City focus their services on specific populations. However, having specialized providers in our community increases the opportunities for a diverse range of batterers to access services. The criminal justice information presented is heavily dependent on self-reporting from batterers along with programs securing copies of police reports and court documents. Overall, the majority of batterers in Seattle are charged with misdemeanor offenses, and are mandated to batterer intervention programs by either the Seattle Municipal Court or the King County superior or district courts.

DV and the Criminal Justice System

Seattle has the highest rate of reported major domestic violence crimes (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) in King County (124 per 100,000 people), according to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chief's web site (www.waspc.org).³⁵ The criminal justice system is the primary means by which batterers are held accountable for the abuse they have committed against their intimate partner. In Seattle, the criminal justice system includes the Seattle Police Department, the City Attorney's Office, the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and the Seattle Municipal Court. The King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office is included because this agency prosecutes felony-level domestic violence crimes, while the City Attorney's Office prosecutes misdemeanor-level domestic violence crimes.

Seattle Police Department

Law enforcement is the gateway to the criminal justice system for all domestic violence cases. From the 9-1-1 dispatcher to the responding patrol officer to the follow-up investigation, efforts to hold batterers accountable start with a police response. This sets in motion a process of enforcing the law, prosecuting the offender, and protecting the victim.

In 2006, the Seattle Police Department (SPD) responded to 11,165 domestic violence-related 9-1-1 calls for service or approximately 5% of all 9-1-1 calls. Patrol officers from the department's five precincts play a critical role in responding to these calls, investigating the crimes, and making arrests. Since 1994, SPD's Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) has coordinated SPD's efforts to respond to domestic violence-related crimes. Currently, the DVU includes a lieutenant, two sergeants, eight felony detectives, three misdemeanor detectives, one elder abuse/neglect detective, two elder fraud detectives, and two felony victim advocates. In addition, the DVU has a Victim Support Team that includes one civilian manager, one civilian supervisor and 85 active volunteers who respond to domestic violence incidents at the discretion of patrol officers on weekends only.

From the more than 11,000 domestic violence-related 9-1-1 calls, 6,514 resulted in written reports by the responding officer, including 1,933 arrests. Suspects in domestic violence incidents typically flee prior to police arrival and are seldom located the same day of the incident. In 2006, all patrol-dispatched 9-1-1 calls resulting in an arrest totaled 8,917. Thus, domestic violence arrests account for 21.7% of total arrests from patrol-dispatched 9-1-1 calls.

In the remaining 4,653 DV calls, no written report was required by law or SPD policy. For example, calls to Standby to Assure the Peace so that one of the parties can safely remove their belongings from the home; or calls that could not really be verified as domestic violence. The numbers related to written reports are a more accurate reflection of the number of DV cases handled by SPD.

In 2006, of the 6,514 domestic violence incident reports received, 911 were assigned as felony cases and received further investigation; 405 were misdemeanor reports which were assigned for further investigation; while 3,095 misdemeanor reports did not need additional investigation by the DVU and were referred to the City Attorney's Office for filing of charges.

The number and types of felony and misdemeanor domestic violence crimes investigated by the SPD Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) in 2006 were as follows:

2006	Felony Investigations	Misdemeanor Investigations	Total
Assaults/Threats/No Contact Order Violations	698	293	991
Robbery (felony only)	37	0	37
Kidnap (felony only)	5	0	5
Burglary (felony only)	84	0	84
Property Damage	47	0	47
Theft	31	0	31
Elder Abuse/Neglect	9	112	121
TOTALS	911	405	1,316

The 405 misdemeanor investigations represent 12% of the total number of misdemeanor reports received in 2006.

In 2006, 38 domestic violence incidents reported involving a firearm or that the perpetrator had access to a firearm, and of those incidents 33 weapons were recovered and in the remaining five cases no firearm was located or it was determined the suspect had no access to firearms. In addition to firearms recovered at the scene of domestic violence incidents, SPD had 22 firearms voluntarily surrendered for safekeeping and 43 firearms surrendered by court order.

City Attorney's Office

Vigorous prosecution plays an important role in the response to violent crimes against women. When the legal system responds to domestic violence crimes with serious criminal sanctions, there is a clear message communicated to perpetrators that their behavior is not acceptable and to victims and the community that the abuse is not the victims' fault, the perpetrators' actions are criminal, and that help is available from the criminal justice system.³⁶

The Seattle City Attorney's Office has long been committed to specialized prosecution of domestic violence cases. Beginning with the Battered Women's Project in 1978, which became the Family Violence Project in 1987 and ultimately the current Domestic Violence Unit in 1995, Seattle has been a national leader in efforts to hold batterers accountable.

The Seattle City Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit prosecutes City misdemeanors in Seattle Municipal Court, including crimes of intimate partner domestic violence, elder abuse, and child abuse/neglect cases. The unit is comprised of seven experienced prosecutors and 10 victim advocates supported by one paralegal, one investigator and one appellate attorney. Staff represent a wide cultural diversity and speak Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish and Tagalog.

In 2006, the unit received 3,500 misdemeanor domestic violence incident reports from the Seattle Police Department. This resulted in 1,771 misdemeanor cases being pursued by the City Attorney's Office and 1,729 cases which did not lead to filed charges.

Every report received by the City Attorney's Office is reviewed by a prosecutor who determines whether there are facts sufficient to support a criminal charge. If there are not sufficient facts in the report, the case is designated as No Charges Filed (NCF) and returned to the police department.

Of the 1,771 domestic violence cases which the unit pursued, there were 2,731 charges filed against defendants. One case may include more than one charge. These charges included misdemeanor domestic violence offenses, such as domestic violence assault, violation of no contact orders or protection orders, harassment, and stalking, and other related misdemeanor offenses. In 2006, 1,752 charges or 64 percent resulted in offenders being found guilty, pleading guilty, negotiating a plea, or stipulating to the facts of the case and entering a diversion program (see table below for complete breakdown of charges and outcomes). Just over 30 percent of charges (852 charges) resulted in unfavorable outcomes, meaning that the charge was dismissed for evidentiary reasons, necessary witnesses failed to appear, or the defendant was found not guilty. There are 127 charges from 2006 that are still pending.

2006 Seattle City Attorney's Office Domestic Violence-specific Charges and Outcomes			
Offense	Outcome in Favor of the Prosecution*	Outcome in Favor of the Defendant*	Pending
Criminal Trespass	34	18	5
Domestic Violence Assault	703	382	23
Harassment	161	123	23
Interfering w/ reporting of dom. violence	83	56	0
Reckless Endangerment	50	20	1
Property Destruction	150	74	21
Stalking	11	4	0
Telephone harassment	22	15	8
Theft	25	14	5
Violation of a No Contact Order or a Protection Order	410	124	31
Violation of Other Court Orders	22	8	1
Weapons Offenses	13	6	0
Subtotal	1,684	844	118

**2006 Seattle City Attorney's Office
Other Charges Related to DV Cases and Outcomes**

Offense	Outcome in Favor of the Prosecution*	Outcome in Favor of the Defendant*	Pending
Contributing to Dependency of a Child	21	1	5
False Reporting	12	0	1
Hit and Run	2	1	0
Leaving Child Unattended	1	0	0
No Valid Operator's License	1	0	1
Obstructing Justice	18	0	1
Possession of Marijuana	4	2	0
Possession of Stolen Property	3	0	0
Resisting Arrest	6	4	1
Subtotal	68	8	9
Grand Total	1,752	852	127

* See next table for definition of outcomes

There are a variety of outcomes that are considered favorable, meaning that the prosecution has secured a ruling against the defendant. In 2006, 763 charges (43.5%) resulted in a guilty plea, 546 (31%) were dismissed as part of a negotiated plea, and another 203 (11.5%) had a dispositional continuance.

**2006 Domestic Violence-related Charges:
Outcomes in Favor of the Prosecution (City Attorney's Office)**

Outcome	# of Charges	Percentage
Guilty Plea	763	43.5%
Found Guilty	30	2%
Stipulated Order of Continuance ³⁷	138	8%
Dispositional Continuance ³⁸	203	11.5%
Dismissed, successful diversion ³⁹	9	0.5%
Dismissed, re-filed as a felony	54	3%
Dismissed, negotiated plea ⁴⁰	546	31%
Deferred Prosecution	1	0.05%
Dismissed, revocation of another case ⁴¹	8	0.45%
Subtotal	1,752	

The remaining 852 charges were resolved in favor of the defendant. Only 2 percent of charges resulted in not guilty findings. The majority of charges that resulted in a favorable outcome for the defendant were due to dismissal of charges – either for evidentiary reasons (26%) or because a witness failed to appear (72%).

2006 Domestic Violence-related Charges: Outcomes in Favor of the Defendant		
Outcome	Number of Charges	Percentage
Not Guilty	17	2%
Dismissed, evidentiary problem	218	26%
Dismissed, civilian witness failure to appear	606	71%
Dismissed, non-civilian witness failure to appear	11	1%
Subtotal	852	

Seattle Municipal Court

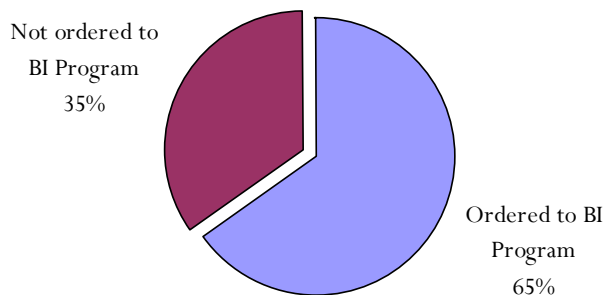
In domestic violence cases, judges, court staff and probation play a crucial role in promoting victim safety and offender accountability. In addition to adjudicating cases and crafting sentences, judges make critical decisions about the amount of bail, the timing of an offender's release from jail, issuance and lifting of no contact orders terms of sentence, and responses to probation violations. Once a domestic violence offender is sentenced, probation counselors are key to monitoring his compliance with the conditions of sentence.

The Seattle Municipal Court has demonstrated a long-term commitment to prioritizing domestic violence cases.

In the early 1990s, the Court organized specialized calendars for several types of domestic violence-related hearings, and also established a domestic violence unit in probation to monitor domestic violence offenders. In 2004, a special Domestic Violence Court was established with two presiding judges whose assignments rotate every two years.

In 2006, 1,164 offenders were charged and sentenced for domestic violence offenses. Domestic violence offenses include intimate partner abuse as well as child abuse and other family violence.⁴² There are a variety of sentencing requirements that are used by the court, including domestic violence treatment, probation, alcohol/drug evaluation and treatment, mental health evaluation and treatment, alternatives to jail (e.g. community service hours, work crew, electric home monitoring), no contact orders, and prohibitions regarding weapons.

DV Offenders Sentences that included Batterer Intervention Treatment, 2006



Of these 1,164 offenders, 760 or 65% were ordered to domestic violence treatment, also called batterer intervention treatment. The average length of time in 2006 for offenders to enter batterer intervention programs was 58 days (this is from the date the offender reports to Probation to the date of intake with a batterer's treatment program).⁴³ Evidence suggests that the more quickly offenders are able to enter treatment, the more likely they are to complete batterer intervention programs. Common reasons why it takes offenders an average of 58 days to enter batterer intervention programs include financial constraints, chemical dependency, and mental health issues.

In 2006, SMC Probation closed batterer intervention treatment plans on 319 offenders. Of these closed treatment plans, 222 offenders (70%) completed batterers' intervention and 97 offenders (30%) did not complete treatment. These closed treatment plans include offenders that were compliant with DV treatment but had not completed the program at the time their probation ended.

In 2006, a total of 509 domestic violence related cases were closed by probation. In nearly half (49%) of these cases, the offender completed all requirements of his probation – 147 offenders or 29% completed all court obligations with no violations/reviews; and 101 offenders or 20% completed all court obligations but had review hearings before a judge. Typically these hearings would be for technical reasons (e.g. missing probation appointments or taking longer to enter treatment than probation guidelines dictate).

Another 201 offenders (39%) had their probation revoked either for technical reasons (see above) and/or new offenses. An example of this is when probation is stricken and a jail sentence imposed. Five percent (5%) had their probation case closed for substantial compliance, with or without a new offense. Substantial compliance means that the offender has made a significant attempt to comply with requirements of probation but has not been able to fully comply. Reasons for not being able to fully comply range from issues of chemical dependency, physical or mental health, immigration, or indigence.

Twenty-six offenders (5%) had their probation case stricken with no consequences. This occurs for a variety of reasons such as deportation, competency issues on other cases, or lengthy prison sentences. The remaining seven cases involved four offenders (1%) whose probation was stayed or stopped due to competency issues (e.g. mental illness or inability to contribute to the defense of their case) and 3 offenders (1%) who died.

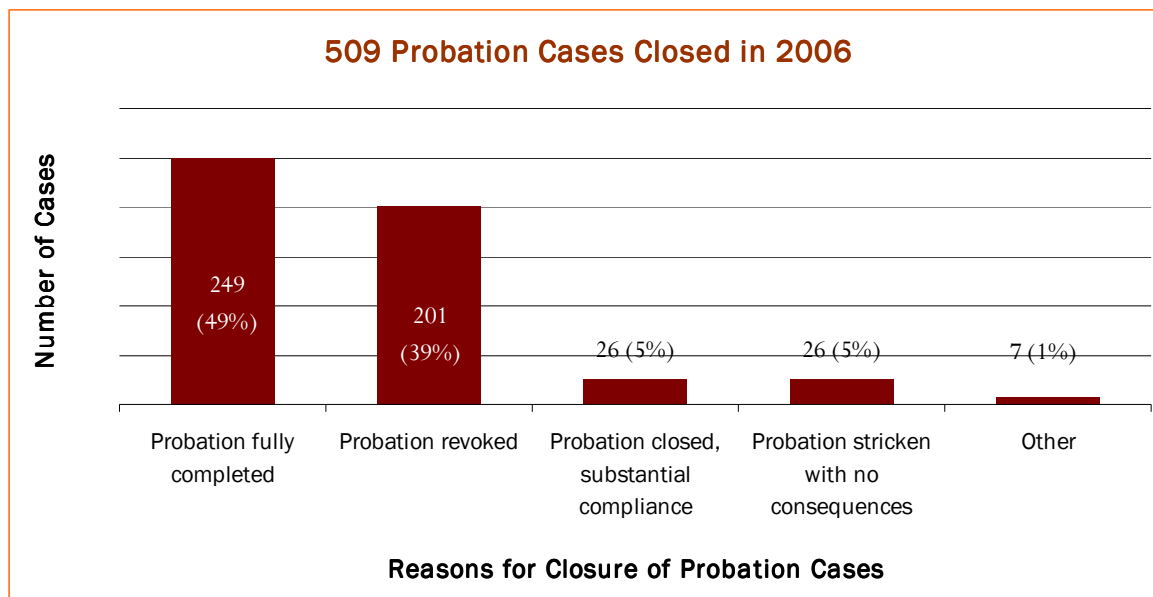
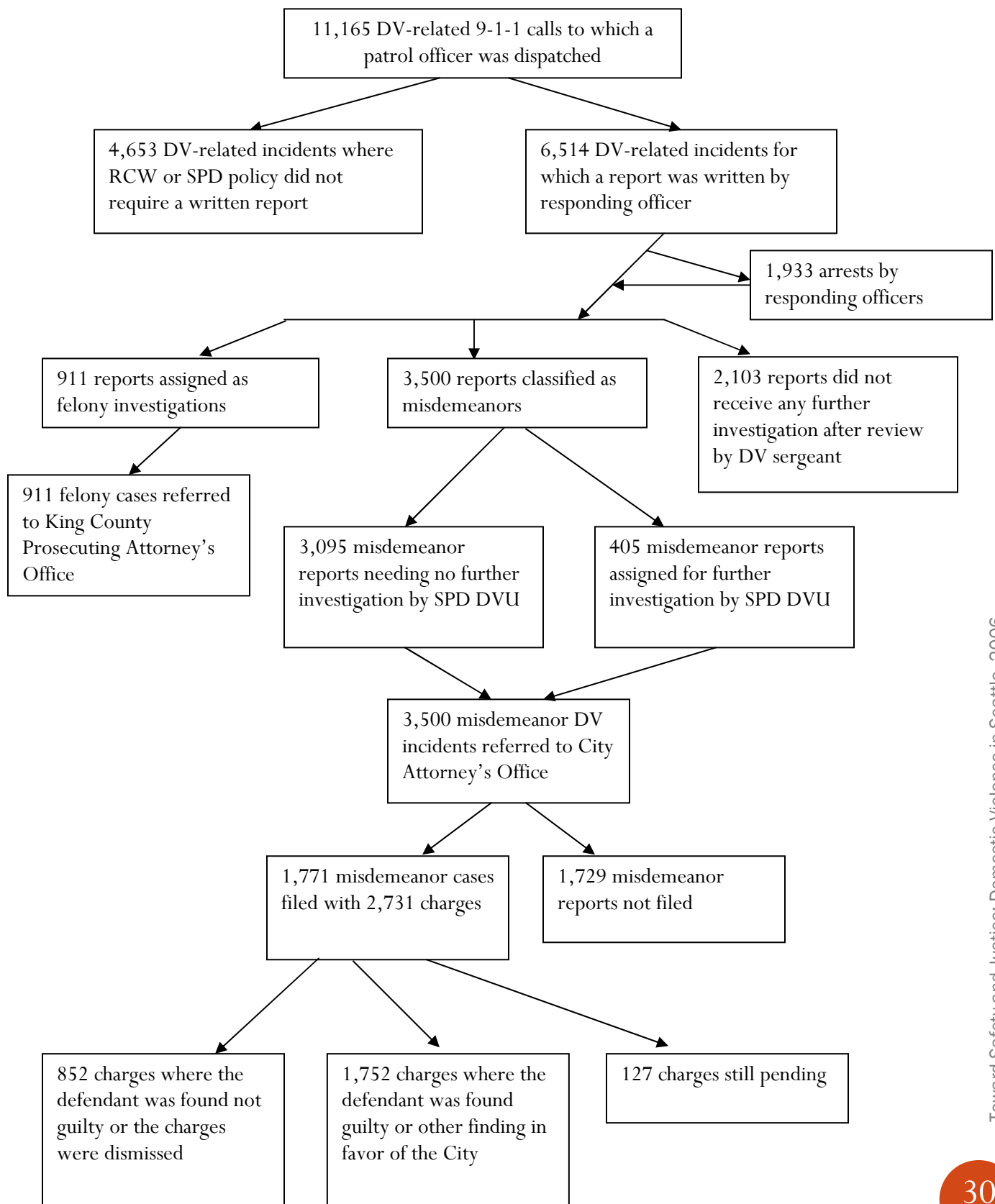


Chart 1: Flow of Domestic Violence Cases through SPD & CAO



Domestic Violence Impacts on Seattle

Domestic violence affects nearly all of society – families, children, elders, public safety and public health systems, and human services programs. Domestic violence has profound negative impacts on victims, children, and perpetrators and on the entire community.

Impacts on Victims

Domestic violence often has significant impacts on every aspect of a victim's life. Batterers often inflict injuries that have short- and long-term consequences for the physical and mental health of victims.

Physical and Mental Health. Injury types commonly inflicted in domestic violence incidents include eardrum ruptures, bruises and fractures, broken teeth, rectal and genital injuries.⁴⁴ Other domestic violence injuries include cigarette burns, bite marks, rope burns, and welts caused by an object such as a belt buckle. Many batterers throw their partners onto the ground, hit and kick them in the head, and attempt to strangle them. Head injuries and strangulation can both result in short- and long-term memory loss, speech and communication difficulties, and other cognitive problems that affect daily functioning. Other impacts include chronic neck or back pain, migraine and other frequent headaches, chronic pelvic pain, and digestive disorders.

Batterers often assault their partners during pregnancy – between 4 and 8 percent of women experience domestic violence during their pregnancy.⁴⁵ As a result, battered women are more likely than other women to experience complications of pregnancy, including low weight gain, anemia, and infections.⁴⁶ Pregnant women are also more likely to be victims of homicide. Murder is the second most common cause of injury-related death for pregnant women (31%) after car accidents.⁴⁷

While not all domestic violence victims experience major physical injuries, many experience constant fear, anxiety, depression and stress. A 2000 Family Therapy journal article references research that documents Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) among battered women. PTSD is the most common diagnosis by mental health professionals for battered women. The domestic violence shelter population is at high risk for PTSD, with estimates ranging from 40% to 84%.⁴⁸

In addition, many women who die by suicide have experienced a history of abuse. A suicide research study that focused on women who died by suicide in Washington in 2003 revealed that 13% had a court-documented history of domestic violence victimization. The true percentage of suicide victims who were domestic violence victims is most likely much higher than 13%.⁴⁹

In a recent research project on domestic violence in the state, Group Health Cooperative surveyed more than 3,000 adult women with three or more years cumulative enrollment with the health care provider. This research showed that compared to women with no abuse, women with recent physical and/or sexual violence were four times as likely to report severe depression and three times as likely to report poor or fair health.⁵⁰ Women who experience intimate partner violence (IPV) are also more likely to use mental health services, substance abuse services, hospital outpatient visits, emergency department visits, and admission to acute inpatient care during and after their IPV.⁵¹

Barriers to Safety. Domestic violence victims face huge barriers to finding safety. Many victims are hampered in efforts to leave abusive relationships by lack of affordable housing, child care, transportation, health care or a living wage. Women at every income level face multiple barriers when attempting to leave abusive partners. Batterers often take control of all the family finances, and deny their abused partners access to funds for even the most basic needs. Among Temporary Aid to Need Families (TANF) recipients who are employed, most are in jobs where wages are insufficient to lift the family out of poverty, and the available jobs do not provide benefits.⁵² The combination of domestic violence and poverty faced by many battered women creates enormous obstacles to successful employment and safety.

For women of color, immigrant and refugee women, bisexual, lesbian and transgendered women, and women with disabilities, there are many additional barriers to seeking help. As described in a study by Public Health – Seattle & King County,⁵³ key barriers to women from these communities include: lack of knowledge about U.S law, women’s rights and resources to help with safety, immigration and legal issues, lack of knowledge about and availability of cultural- and language-specific DV services, and lack of safe, affordable housing.

Lack of Civil Legal Services. There is also a huge need for civil legal assistance for victims of domestic violence, especially in the area of family law. This has been an unmet need in Seattle and statewide. According to a report compiled by the King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence, very few domestic violence victims get the legal assistance they need.⁵⁴ Victims who have attorneys with expertise on domestic violence fare the best; those who have legal advocates do better than those who don’t have any legal assistance.

In Seattle and King County, limited civil legal resources are available for domestic violence survivors, and even fewer attorneys available for assistance or representation.

There are a few agencies that provide civil legal services to domestic violence victims: the Eastside Legal Assistance Program, King County Bar Association, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Northwest Justice Project, and Seattle University Family Law Clinic. In 2006, more than 470 domestic violence victims in King County received information and advice from these agencies, and 559 domestic violence victims received some form of legal service.⁵⁵ The agencies provided direct representation to 232 DV victims, 149 of whom were refugee and immigrant women.

To address the lack of civil legal services available to domestic violence victims, the City of Seattle is funding legal assistance for domestic violence victims.

Impacts on Children

Nearly half of the domestic violence victims killed in Washington State by abusers or their associates since 1997 had children living in the home with them at the time they were murdered. In most cases, those children were present at the time of the homicide.⁵⁶ A recent national report conservatively estimated that up to 20% of children in the U.S. are exposed to domestic violence every year and that one-third of children and youth are exposed to domestic violence sometime in their lifetime.⁵⁷ As many as 78,000 children and youth under the age of 18 years living in King County are exposed to DV each year – more than 18,000 of these are in Seattle.⁵⁸

Children are often the silent victims of domestic violence. Many can't talk about their experiences because they are too young, don't have the words, or think that their experience was normal.⁵⁹ Others may not seek help or support because they think they can't talk about it outside the family or shouldn't ask for help. Children need a way to talk about domestic violence, more available counseling and support, and help developing age-appropriate safety plans.

In 2006, more than 600 children were served by domestic violence agencies funded by the City of Seattle. According to the 2007 One Night Count report prepared by the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness, nearly half of the 1,098 individuals who had experienced violence or abuse within the past year were children.⁶⁰ In Seattle and King County, a number of programs address the needs of children exposed to domestic violence. One is Kids' Club⁶¹ which is a structured group, based on a curriculum developed by Sandra A. Graham-Bermann, Ph.D., University of Michigan. It is a preventive and supportive program for children who have witnessed domestic violence in their families. Non-offending parents/caretakers participate in the group process. The goals are strengthening children's coping abilities, enabling a child to seek out supportive adults, and enhancing the relationship between the child and mother, enabling them to talk about the violence they have experienced. In 2006 the four Kids' Club programs served over 50 children and their mothers.

Impacts on Health Care Systems

Research shows the impact of domestic violence on the health care system. In 2007, Group Health Cooperative released the third in a series of research reports, which focused on the health care utilization and medical care costs of women with a history of intimate partner violence (IPV) compared to women without a history of IPV, surveying more than 3,000 adult women insured by Group Health. According to this study, women reporting abuse also had 17% more primary care visits, 14% more specialist visits, and 27% more prescription fills than women who have not experienced domestic violence.⁶² Adjusted annual total health care costs were 19% higher in women with a history of IPV compared to women without IPV, amounting to \$439 annually per woman with a history of IPV at some point during their adult lives. Based on prevalence for IPV of 44% of women at some time during their adult lifetimes, the excess costs due to IPV are about \$19.3 million per year for every 100,000 women enrollees aged 18-64.

Costs to the Community

A 2003 study by the Centers for Disease Control⁶³ estimated that intimate partner violence costs \$4.1 billion annually in direct medical and mental health costs and nearly \$1.8 billion annually in indirect costs including lost productivity for non-fatal violence, and the present value of lifetime earnings for fatal violence. The \$5.8 billion cited in the report is a conservative estimate based on data collected a number of years ago, and does not include expenses for court costs, ambulance, police response, direct property loss, medications, forensic rape examinations, testing for sexually transmitted diseases, emergency contraception, pain and suffering. Studies including those factors place the actual costs of intimate partner violence at \$67 billion annually. Moreover, the report has found that 858.6 million days per year are lost from employment and household activities as a result of intimate partner violence. There are no similar statistics available for what domestic violence costs the city of Seattle.

Toward the Future: Improving Our Response

Seattle has a long history of activism and advocacy in response to violence against women. Excellent criminal justice and community-based systems address the many criminal, social and legal issues that comprise this problem.

While national and local data indicate that the incidence of domestic violence is decreasing—the investment and efforts to combat domestic violence appear to be paying off—the problem persists. Responding to domestic violence is expensive, demanding, and heartbreaking. It is also uplifting. Many good people and organizations in our community are working hard to solve these problems. The City of Seattle is deeply committed to improving the criminal justice and community-based response to domestic violence by gauging our progress to date, identifying needs and gaps, and planning for the future. This effort includes strategic planning with key partners, securing funding, launching new initiatives, and implementing prevention strategies.

The following list of needs and solutions is a partial list of what the City has in the “hopper.” We look forward to reporting on the progress of these and other efforts in the 2008 biennial report.

Need:

Improvements are needed to civil legal services for victims of domestic violence.

Solution

In 2007, the City funded a community-based legal services agency to provide civil legal services to victims of domestic violence using a three tiered process. In Tier 1, attorneys provide indirect assistance to domestic violence survivors through community-based and systems-based domestic violence advocates. In Tier 2, attorneys provide brief in-person legal consultation sessions to domestic violence survivors. In Tier 3, attorneys provide direct representation to domestic violence survivors faced with the most complex legal issues. These services are intended to improve the safety and financial status of domestic violence survivors.

Need:

Mental health providers need training to learn more about domestic violence and domestic violence providers need to learn more about mental health.

Solution

A U.S. Department of Justice grant will be used for a three-year pilot project focusing on the needs of domestic violence survivors with mental health issues. Grant activities will include cross-training for staff in domestic violence, mental health, and chemical dependency on culturally appropriate services for victims of domestic violence who are disabled by mental health issues. The project will also serve to strengthen relationships among providers, develop protocols for case consultation, and provide technical assistance as needed.

Need:

Improvements to timely entry of victims into shelter are needed. Currently, victims must make a number of calls to community based providers in order to access shelters for safety purposes. Shelter vacancies are scarce, agencies do not keep waiting lists, and no single entity keeps a real-time domestic violence shelter bed inventory.

Solution

The City, together with community partners, is exploring real-time web-based shelter bed inventory software and procedures with the goal of implementing a system whereby callers get connected with shelter services with just one call.

Need:

We need more housing for victims and their children fleeing abusive relationships. The ability to obtain stable, supportive housing is often the pivotal factor that allows victims to permanently leave their abusers.

Solution

A newly awarded Department of Justice grant, *Bridges to Housing*, will provide rental assistance and supportive services to transition 18 families into permanent housing over three years.

Need:

We need to build capacity within the defense bar to advocate for and defend domestic violence survivors who have been charged with crimes (victim defendants).

Solution

In 2007, the City contracted with a local coalition to provide victim defendant training for the defense bar and to enhance defender linkages for victim defendants.

Need:

Investigation of whether a Seattle Family Justice Center would enhance outcomes for victims and increase perpetrator accountability is needed.

Solution

The Mayor's Office authorized an assessment process to determine if the Seattle community is supportive of a Family Justice Center and if such center is financially feasible. A recommendation is expected by the end of 2007.

Appendix

Victim Services: Helping Victims Gain Safety, Self-Sufficiency

Victims of domestic violence and their children are among the most vulnerable in our community. The City of Seattle started funding victim services programs in 1978. Our current programs emphasize victim services and shelter. More than 1,500 women and children are helped by these programs each year.

Victim Services

The City's community-based partners provide an array of services and programs, including:

- Information and assistance
- Safety planning
- Education about the dynamics of domestic violence
- Guidance through the numerous social institutions to help survivors.
- Accompaniment to criminal or civil legal proceedings and help with protection orders
- Referrals to income and employment support
- Access to safe, confidential, short- and long-term shelter and housing
- Provision of or referral to mental health, medical, chemical dependency and legal services
- Interpretation services

Safe, Confidential Housing

The most dangerous time for a survivor of domestic violence is when she chooses to end the relationship, and safe housing is of paramount importance. The City supports the following programs.

- **Enriched Housing:** service-enriched, confidential housing programs for domestic violence victims within the city
- **Hotel Vouchers:** For stays in hotels up to two weeks, giving families time to get help and find longer term housing.
- **Transitional Housing:** longer-term housing options, where residents may stay for as long as two years, while they search for permanent housing.

Community-Based Domestic Violence Agencies

In Seattle and King County community-based agencies, which receive a portion of their funding from the City of Seattle's Human Services Department, offer a broad spectrum of support services to victims and intervention services to perpetrators. The range of services includes 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter, transitional housing, safety planning, advocacy-based counseling, legal and individual advocacy, support groups, children's services, linguistically and culturally appropriate services, and community organizing and engagement activities. These programs serve survivors from all communities representing a diversity of language, culture, religion, sexual orientation and abilities.

King County has five confidential domestic violence enriched shelter programs, with a combined capacity of as many as 108 adults and children, specifically designed to house victims of domestic violence and their children who are fleeing dangerous abusers. All offer adult and child residents a range of services and assistance, and three of them operate 24-hour crisis lines. Eight agencies operate transitional housing programs that are specifically designed to meet the needs of DV survivors needing longer-term housing and support. All offer a variety of intensive advocacy services for the women and children they house for 9 to 24 months. One program is for women dealing with the dual problems of domestic violence and recovery from substance abuse. Another program is specifically for deaf and hard of hearing survivors. Two other housing programs are for immigrant women and children in need of bi-cultural, bilingual services.

Eleven agencies provide culturally specific community-based services for survivors. Eight of them have access to hotel vouchers for short-term emergency housing. Three of them have developed transitional housing programs. Six of them have community engagement programs targeted to the specific communities they serve. The cultural communities served by these programs include Latino; Southeast Asian, Pacific Islander, South Asian, African, Eastern European, Russian, Jewish, Native American, African American, LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Most of the services provided to victims and survivors who are not in residential programs fall under the category of "community advocacy." Services include:

- Safety planning.
- Advocacy and support for any relevant issue identified by the survivor.
- Assisting survivors in finding shelter, transitional and long-term housing.
- Emergency assistance (for example, taxi vouchers, food, rental assistance).
- Support groups, which may be structured or unstructured.
- Providing service in the client's own language, through interpreters and/or bi-lingual staff.
- Legal advocacy, including explaining legal options, accompanying clients to court, and making referrals to legal service agencies.
- Supportive services for children of program participants and parenting support.

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Endnotes

¹ *When Will They Ever Learn? Educating to End Domestic Violence, A Law School Report*: American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence, US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, 1997.

² See section on Community Impact below.

³ Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, *Crime in Washington: 2006 Annual Report*, www.waspc.org/index.php?c=Crime%20Statistics. The total reported domestic violence offenses are limited to: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson and violation of protection/no-contact orders.

⁴ Data source: Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, *Crime in Washington Annual Reports*, www.waspc.org; Produced by: Public Health Seattle-King County, EPE Unit. 7/25/07.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid. The definition of simple assault is an unlawful attack or attempted attack by one person upon another in which no weapon was used and which did not result in serious or aggravated injury to the victim (www.waspc.org).

⁷ Catalano, Shannan, Ph.D. *Intimate Partner Violence in the United States*, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/intimate/ipv.htm. Intimate relationships involve current or former spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends, including homosexual relationships. Violence between intimates includes homicides, rapes, robberies, and assaults committed by an intimate partner.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Fox, James Alan, The Lipman Family Professor of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University, and Marianne W. Zawitz, BJS Statistician, *Homicide Trends in the United States*, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/homicide/intimates.htm

¹⁰ This definition is used by the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence in the Fatality Reviews that they publish every two years, www.wscadv.org. *If I had one more day: Findings and Recommendations from the Washington State Fatality Review*, K. Starr and J. Fawcett, Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, December 2006. Updated statistics through the end of 2006 by Washington State county: www.wscadv.org/projects/FR/06_CountiesTableUpdated06-21-07.pdf

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Catalano, Shannan, Ph.D. *Intimate Partner Violence in the United States*, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/intimate/ipv.htm.

¹³ Thompson RS, Bonomi AE, Anderson M, Reid RF, Dimer JA, Carrell D, Rivara FP. *Intimate Partner Violence: Prevalence, Types, and Chronicity in Adult Women*, American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2006; 30(6):447-457.

¹⁴ Ibid. The survey questions used were five questions from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, and assessed physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, and slapping; forced intercourse; forced sexual contact that did not result in intercourse; fear due to a partner's anger or threats; and put-downs, name calling, and controlling behavior.

¹⁵ Washington State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2005 Survey, generated by Genevieve Rowe (November 2006)

¹⁶ New Beginnings (Seattle) – 4,718 crisis calls, Eastside Domestic Violence Program (East King County) – 9,170 crisis calls, Domestic Abused Women's Network (South King County) – 12,321 crisis calls

¹⁷ Data provided by Kathleen Southwick, Executive Director of the King County Crisis Clinic.

¹⁸ *Domestic Violence and Homelessness*, National Coalition for the Homeless, June 2006, www.nationalhomeless.org/publications/facts/domestic.pdf

¹⁹ The One Night County took place January 26, 2007. This survey is a measure of who is in homeless programs, and not of those who are not being served. There were 2,368 individuals in emergency shelter, and 3,312 in transitional housing on the night of the count, in addition to a minimum of 2,159 people unsheltered. The 5,680 in programs represent 3,821 households.

²⁰ Provided by Linda Olsen, City of Seattle Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention Division. This figure represents the capacity of domestic violence facilities in King County. For confidential and semi-confidential shelter, there are 43 units available for families and 27 beds available for singles. For transitional housing, there are 141 units for families (six domestic violence programs may use units for either families or singles). It does not include hotel vouchers or rental assistance for domestic violence survivors to access permanent housing.

²¹ This is an average of the turn away rates at Salvation Army Catherine Booth House, New Beginnings, Eastside Domestic Violence Program, and DAWN. This average turn away rate is likely duplicated.

²² The 12 contracting agencies are: Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services, Chaya, Consejo Counseling and Referral Service, Highline West Seattle Mental Health Center, International District Housing Alliance (2 contracts – Enriched Housing and Transitional Housing), New Beginnings (3 contracts – Victim Advocacy Program, Enriched Housing, and Transitional Housing), Northwest Network, Refugee Women's Alliance, Salvation Army (3 contracts – Victim Advocacy Program, Enriched Housing, and Transitional Housing), Seattle Counseling Services, Seattle Indian Health Board, YWCA Seattle-King-Snohomish County East Cherry Branch (2 contracts – Victim Advocacy Program and Hotel Vouchers). Unless otherwise noted, the agency has a contract for Victim Advocacy.

²³ See Appendix for more information on City-funded domestic violence programs.

²⁴ Source for Seattle demographic data is www.cityofseattle.net/oir/datasheet/demographics.htm

²⁵ US Census Bureau, 2000 Census <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/53/536300.html>. City of Seattle, *Immigrants and Refugee Report and Action Plan: 2007-2009*. www.seattle.gov/mayor/issues/rsji/immigrants/docs/I&R_Report.pdf

²⁶ Personal conversations with Yoon Joo Han, Asian Counseling and Referral Services (July 17, 2007) and Pradeepta Upadhyay, Chaya (July 18, 2007).

²⁷ *Seattle Poverty Rates Vary Widely*, City of Seattle, Department of Planning & Development, December 2003. www.seattle.gov/dpd/stellent/groups/pan/@pan/documents/web_informational/dpds_006763.pdf

²⁸ *Batterer Intervention Systems: Issues, Outcomes and Recommendations*, E. Gondolf, Sage Series on *Violence Against Women*, 2002.

²⁹ Catalano, Shannan, Ph.D. *Intimate Partner Violence in the United States*, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/intimate/ipv.htm.

³⁰ Northwest Network, www.nwnetwork.org/articles/7.html

³¹ Catalano, Shannan, Ph.D. *Intimate Partner Violence in the United States*, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/intimate/ipv.htm.

³² Ibid.

³³ Contract-eligible participants are male or female domestic violence batterers whose income is less than 30 percent of median under the HUD Income guidelines and who reside in Seattle themselves and/or whose victim(s) lives in Seattle. Of the 358, 46 were enrolled with Asian Counseling & Referral Service, 80 with Consejo Counseling & Referral Service, 199 with Family Services, and 33 with Highline West Seattle Mental Health Center.

³⁴ 42 records from ACRS, 81 from Consejo, 135 from Family Services, and 88 from Highline West Seattle Mental Health.

³⁵ Communities Count 2005: Social and Health Indicators Across King County, www.communitiescount.org. Based on Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs crime statistics www.waspc.org.

³⁶ National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, *The Toolkit to End Violence Against Women*, <http://toolkit.ncjrs.org/>

³⁷ In a Stipulated Order of Continuance (SOC), the defendant stipulates to the facts of the case, waives the right to a trial, and agrees to the conditions of the order. A SOC is used specifically with domestic violence offenses and requires batterer intervention treatment as one of the conditions of the order. SOC's are a diversion program whereby the judge issues a continuance of the case (for up to 24 months) during which time the defendant must comply with all conditions of the order, and if all conditions are met at the end of the continuance, the charges are dropped. SOC's are reserved for first time offenders, and there are strict guidelines for who is eligible to receive an SOC.

³⁸ A Dispositional Continuance (DC) is similar to an SOC but is used for charges that are not domestic violence-specific and where batterer intervention treatment would not be appropriate. A DC is another type of diversion program reserved for first time offenders.

³⁹ Defendants who successfully complete either a SOC or a DC.

⁴⁰ In these instances, a defendant has more than one charge, and the lesser charge(s) or more difficult to prove charge(s) is dropped in exchange for a guilty plea on the higher charge(s) or more provable charge(s). For example, a defendant with a domestic violence assault charge and an interfering with a DV report charge, pleads guilty to the domestic violence assault charge in exchange for the interfering with a DV report charge being dropped.

⁴¹ In these instances, a defendant is currently on probation and is charged with a new offense. The City Attorney's Office negotiates with the defendant to not prosecute on the new charges and instead revokes the defendant's probation on the previous charges.

⁴² 69 of the 1,164 were child abuse offenders. The Seattle Municipal Court is not able to separate out intimate partner offenders from other family violence offenses.

⁴³ This average is from 220 offenders not all 760 ordered to treatment in 2006 and does not include offenders who have not yet entered treatment. This is a recognized gap in the data collection system at SMC.

⁴⁴ *Domestic Violence: Signs and Symptoms*, Consumer Health, online at www.emedicinehealth.com/domestic_violence/article_em.htm

⁴⁵ National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, www.ncaDV.org/files/pregnancy.pdf. Gazamarian, JA, et. al., "Violence and Reproductive Health: Current Knowledge and Future Research Directions", *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, Vol. 4, No 2, pg. 80 (2000).

⁴⁶ *Abuse During Pregnancy, Association of Maternal Health and Infant Birthweight*, McFarlane, J., Parker, B.& Soeken, K. *Nursing Research*, (45), 1996.

⁴⁷ National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, www.ncaDV.org/files/pregnancy.pdf. Jeani Chang, MPH, Cynthia J. Berg, MD, MPH, Linda E. Saltzman, PhD and Joy Herndon, MS, "Homicide: A Leading Cause of Injury Deaths Among Pregnant and Postpartum Women in the United States, 1991-1999," *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 95, No. 3, pg. 471-77 (2005).

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⁴⁹ Starr, K. & Fawcett, J, *If I Had One More Day: Findings and Recommendations from the Washington state Domestic Violence Fatality Review*, Dec. 2006

⁵⁰ Bonomi AE, Thompson RS, Anderson M, Reid RJ, Carrel D, Dimer JA, Rivara FP. *Intimate Partner Violence and Women's Physical, Mental and Social Functioning*, American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2006;30(6):458-466.

⁵¹ Rivara FP, Anderson M, Fishman, P, Bonomi AE, Reid R, Carrell D, Thompson R. *Healthcare Utilization and Costs for Women with a History of Intimate Partner Violence*, American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 2007;32(2):89-96.

⁵² *Poverty and Domestic Violence: The Impact of Welfare Reform*, P. Cole, National Training Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence, October 2000.

⁵³ *Cultural Issues Affecting DV Service Utilization in Ethnic and Hard to Reach Populations*, Public Health –Seattle & King County, Grant #98-WT-VX-0025 and #98-WE-VX-0028, November 2000. www.metrokc.gov/health/dv/

⁵⁴ Cousin, Merrill. *I Just Want to Be Safe: Battered Women's Experiences with the Family Law System in King County*, December 2005. www.kccadv.org

⁵⁵ This data is the combined 2006 statistics from King County Bar Association, Eastside Legal Assistance Program, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Northwest Justice Project, and Seattle University Family Law Clinic.

⁵⁶ *If I had one more day: Findings and Recommendations from the Washington State Fatality Review*, K. Starr and J. Fawcett, Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, December 2006.

⁵⁷ Carlson, Bonnie (2000). Children exposed to intimate partner violence: Research findings and implications for intervention. *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*, 1(4), 321-342. *King County, Washington State, Safe & Bright Futures Project: Needs Assessment Report for Infants, Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence*, Public Health – Seattle & King County, December 2006.

⁵⁸ South King Council of Human Services, *A Matter of Need*, 2005. Data source is 2000 US Census. There are 390,646 children under 18 years of age living in King County. Of these 23.9% or 93,520 live in Seattle.

⁵⁹ King County, Washington State, Safe & Bright Futures Project: Needs Assessment Report for Infants, Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence, Public Health – Seattle & King County, December 2006

⁶⁰ The One Night County took place January 26, 2007. This survey is a measure of who is in homeless programs, and not of those who are not being served. There were 2,368 individuals in emergency shelter, and 3,312 in transitional housing on the night of the count, in addition to a minimum of 2,159 people unsheltered. The 5,680 in programs represent 3,821 households.

⁶¹ Kids' Clubs are a collaboration involving New Beginnings, Domestic Abuse Women's Network, Jewish Family Services Project DVORA (with Family Services of King County) and Eastside Domestic Violence Program (with Seattle Mental Health).

⁶² Rivara FP, Anderson M, Fishman, P, Bonomi AE, Reid R, Carrell D, Thompson R. *Healthcare Utilization and Costs for Women with a History of Intimate Partner Violence*, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 2007;32(2):89-96.

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